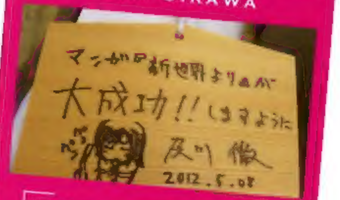
TORU OIKAWA



初連載！初単行本です！
写真は筑波山神社にて。
筑波山山頂、超怖い。

Cover Design : smack

新世界より 1

shin-sekai-yori

原作 貴志祐介
漫画 及川徹
協力 アニメ「新世界より」

Shonen Magazine Comics

KCM4745
KC MAGAZINE
新世界より
shin-sekai-yori
1
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shin-sekai-yori
VOL.1

1000年後の日本。神の力「呪力」の鍛錬に励む子供達と、それを見守る優しい大人達。それは、完璧なまでに美しき人類の理想郷だった。しかし、やがて子供達は、呪力の使えぬ子供がこの世界に誰一人としていないことに気付く——。
21世紀SF最高傑作を完全漫画化!!

新世界より
Shonen Magazine Comics

及川 徹 作品
TORU OIKAWA WORKS

MAGAZINE KC
新世界より ① ～ 以下続刊

新世界より

1

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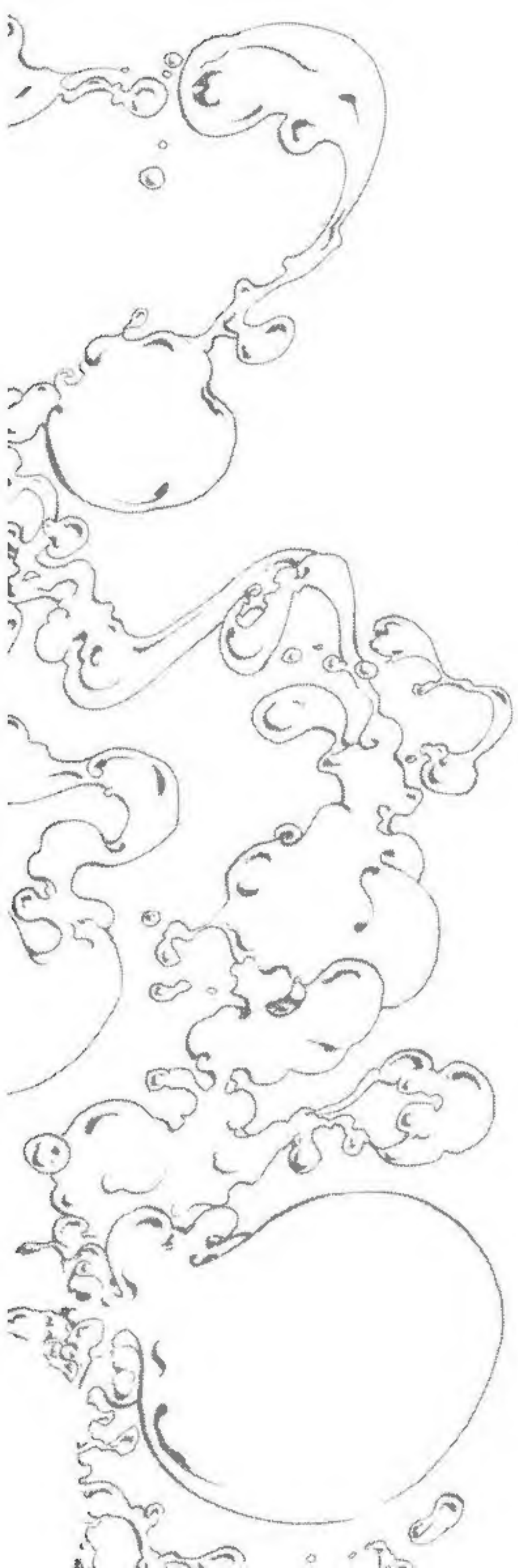

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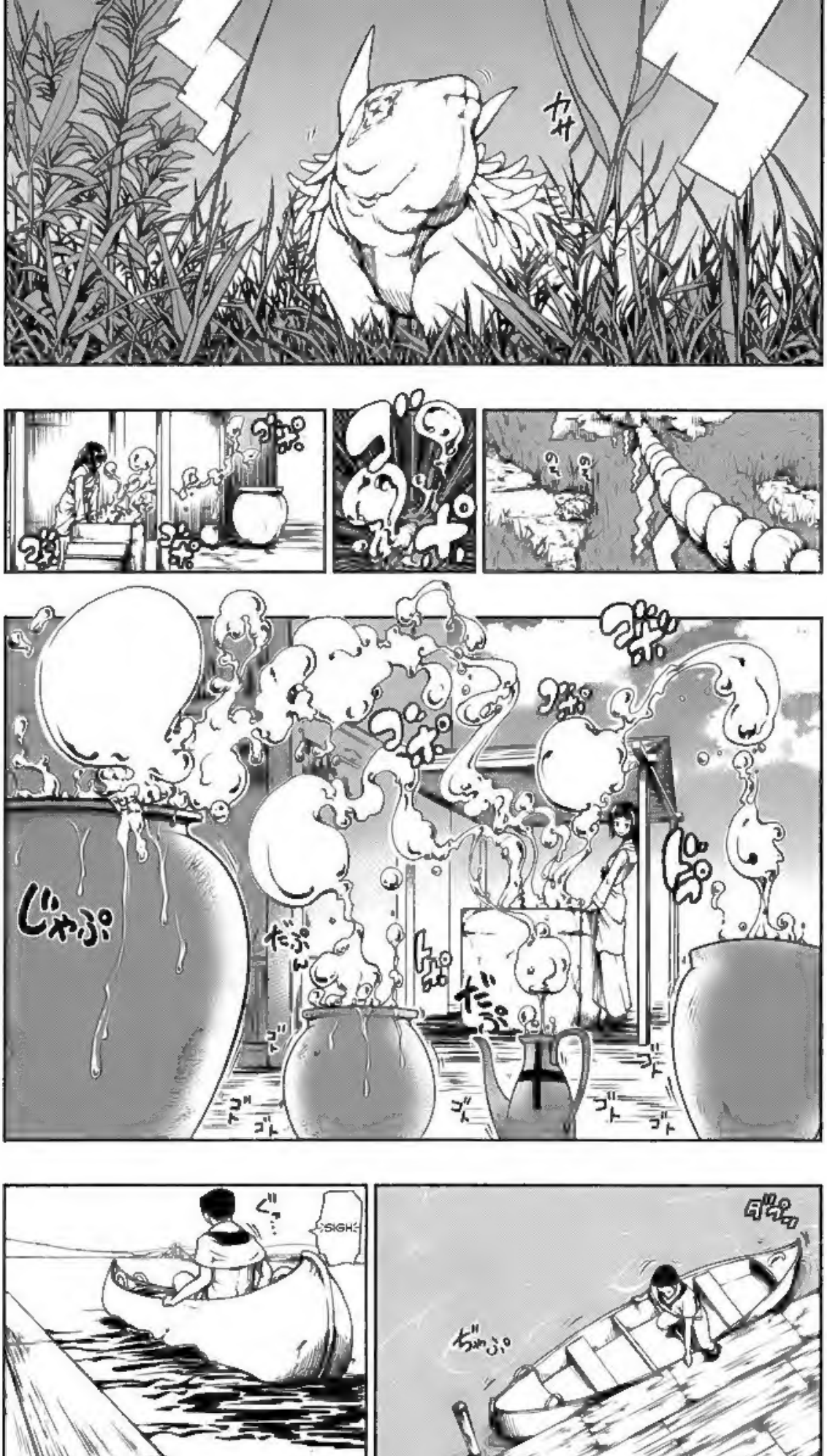
DISTRICT 66 IN KAMISU IS NEATLY SPLIT BY THE TONE RIVER, ON WHICH ONE CAN TRAVEL BY BOAT.
THE TOWN IS SURROUNDED BY THE HOLY BARRIER TO PROTECT US CHILDREN.
WE'RE TOLD NOT TO GO BEYOND THE BORDER.
IN THIS TRANQUIL TOWN...

Chapter 1
Season of the Young Leaves

TO PREVENT DISASTER FROM RE-OCCURRING IN THIS TRANQUIL TOWN
IN THE DISTANT FUTURE DUE TO HUMAN FOOLISH-NESS,
I AM RECORDING MY EXPER-IENCES HERE.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ぽぽぽ
ぽぽぽ

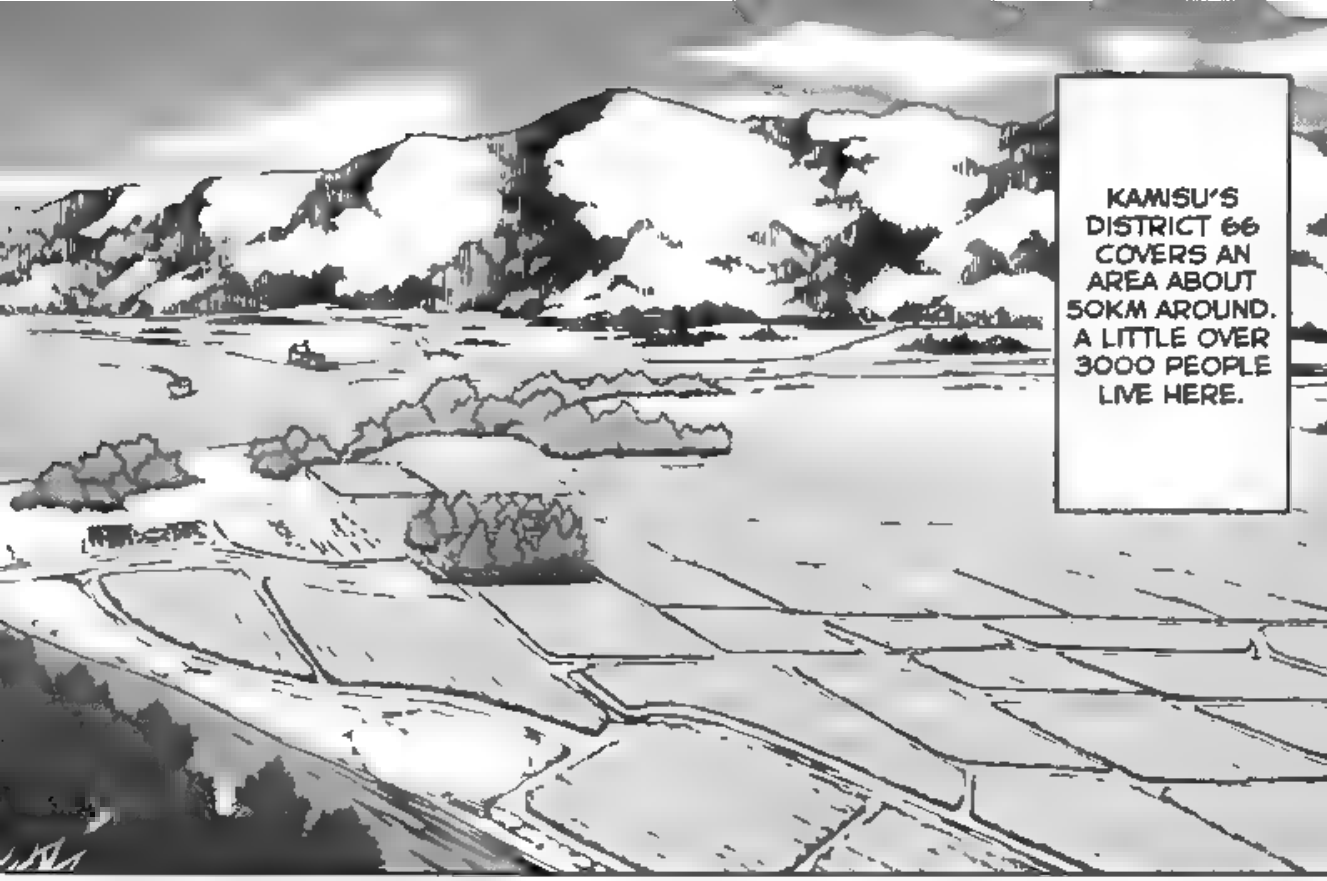
YOU KNOW, SATORU BACK THEN...
HEY- SAKI, SHUT IT!
OOH, TELL ME!
SAKI!
!
I HAVE SNACKS! EAT THEM WITH YOUR FRIENDS!
THANKS, MOM!

THANKS A LOOOT!
OH!
ALRIIIIGHT, EVERONE! CATCH!
HUH?!
WHAT? HEY..
WAI-...
REIKO!
WAH!
AH...
SATORU!!
WATCH OUT, JEEZ!
MARIA!
MM♡

SHUN!
THANKS, SAK!
HEHE!
MM, SO GOOD! IT'S SO JUICY INSIDE THE SHELL! IT MELTS ON YOUR TONGUE!
IT'S MY MOM'S NEW INVENTION! SHE ROASTS THEM FROM THE INSIDE OUT!
AMAZ-ING?!
ISN'T CANTUS

IT'S RARE TO SEE THEM IN TOWN.
WAH! QUEER-RATS?!
WHAT? SHUN...
HM? THAT'S...
CAN'T SEE THEM. WHAT A SHAME...
THEIR FACES ..
THEY'RE CLEANING THE CANALS.
I CAN'T WAIT TO BE ABLE TO USE MY CANTUS!
YEAH, TELL ME ABOUT IT.
CANALS, HUH. MUST BE COOL TO BE GROWN UP, BEING ABLE TO ROW BOATS WITH YOUR CANTUS.

BETWEEN THE THREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND ONE ADVANCED ACADEMY IN TOWN,
KAMISUJIS DISTRICT 66 COVERS AN AREA ABOUT 50KM AROUND. A LITTLE OVER 3000 PEOPLE LIVE HERE.
THERE IS ONE "APOTHESIS CLASS".
FOR NOW, I'D AT LEAST LIKE TO BE ABLE TO MOVE BOATS.
I NEVER THOUGHT IT WAS FAIR THAT ONLY ADULTS COULD DO THAT
HOW ABOUT YOU, MARIA?
I WANNA BLOW STUFF UP AND SHOOT ROCKS AND STUFF, Y'KNOW?
SATORU?
LIKE THE STRONGEST CANTUS USER, KABURAGI SHISEI!
THERE'S A LOT OF THINGS I WANT TO TRY MAKING.
THAT AND DRAWING OR SOMETHING.
C. COOKING, I GUESS?
AND YOU, REIKO?
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO WHEN YOU CAN USE YOUR CANTUS?
HEY!
WHEN A CHILD'S CANTUS AWAKENS, THEY GRADUATE FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
AS A WHOLE, THE CLASS WILL CONTINUE EDUCATION AND TAKE CANTUS LESSONS.
WHEN THEY GROW UP, THEY BECOME A PART OF SOCIETY.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THERE'S A LOT OF THINGS I WANT TO TRY MAKING.
THAT AND DRAWING OR SOME-THING.
C, COOKING, I GUESS?
AND YOU, REIKO?

SO CUTE
HOW ABOUT YOU?

ALSO...
AND... UM..

I WANT
. BET IT'S THAT
HUH? ME?!

TO EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER!

I WANT TO SEE LOTS OF ANIMALS OUTSIDE, LIKE QUEERATS!
ANIMALS YOU WON'T FIND AROUND HERE, CAN'T IMAGINE HERE. I WANT TO SEE WONDERFUL LANDSCAPES!
I'M SURE YOU CAN GO ANYWHERE IF YOU HAVE CANTUS!

WHEN THE TIME COMES, LET'S GO TOGETHER!
ME TOO, SAKI!
OK?
... YEAH.

HEY, DID YOU GUYS KNOW?
HUH
WHA... WHAT, SATORU...
M... ME TOO... TOGETHER!
HAHA ...
it's tough being popular
HEEEEY!! SHUN! AREN'T YOU GETTING CARRIED AWAY?! I WANT TO GO, TOO!!

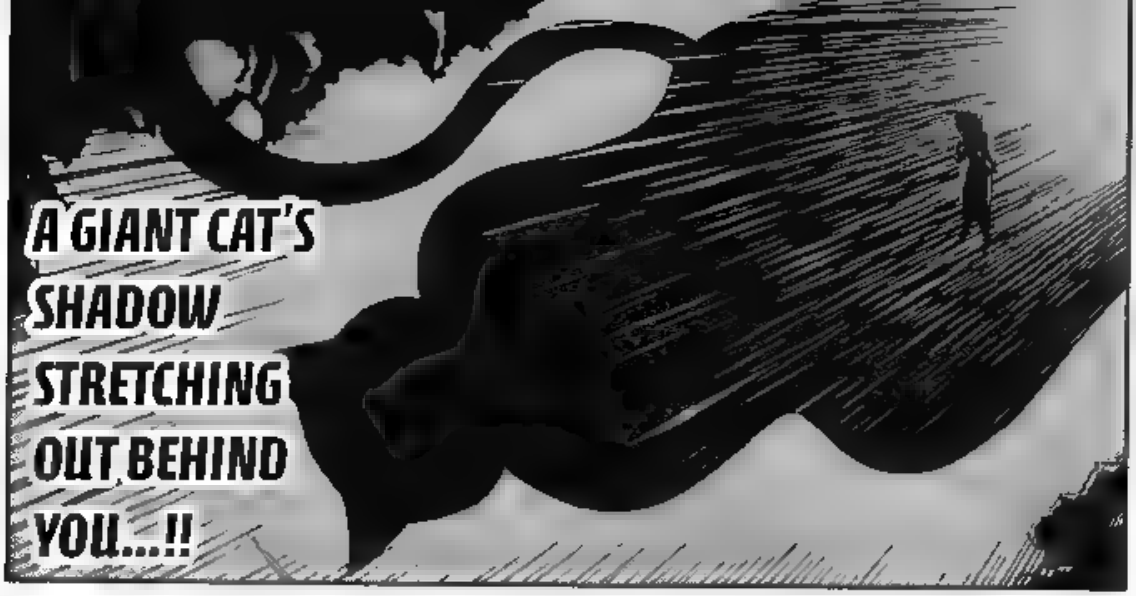
WHOSE CANTUS NEVER AWOKE, AND THEY NEVER GRADUATED FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
THERE ARE PEOPLE ...

SATORU, QUIT IT! THIS IS ANOTHER HORROR STORY, ISN'T IT?
BUT... THERE'S NEVER BEEN ANBODY WHO COULDN'T GRADUATE FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...
I HEARD IT FROM SOMEONE, YOU KNOW

THERE HE GOES AGAIN.
HUH.. ?

THEY'RE TAKEN
BY A HUGE CAT THEY CALL THE FAZE CAT

...
ON THE WAY HOME, YOU'LL FEEL LIKE THERE IS SOMETHING FOLLOWING YOU
IF YOU'RE THE LAST ONE LEFT, YOU START GETTING A REALLY UNSETTLING FEELING...
THERE'S... NO WAY THAT COULD...
EEK!
WHA... WHAT?
BUT YOU TURN AROUND, AND THERE'S NOTHING THERE. YOU KEEP GOING... WHEN SUDDENLY YOU NOTICE.
I HEARD IT FROM SOME UPPER-CLASSMEN WHO WERE THE LAST IN THEIR YEAR TO GRADUATE


A GIANT CAT'S SHADOW STRETCHING OUT BEHIND YOU...!!

SINCE, AMONG US...
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

HUH? WHY ME?
WON'T YOU REGRET TELLING A HORROR STORY LIKE THAT?
AAAH!! SAK!!!!!
WAI... SATORU!! DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO STOP ?!

YOU'LL BE THE LAST ONE OF US TO GRADUATE, OF COURSE!

WAS ME!!
AFTER EVERYBODY ELSE HAD GRADUATED FROM WAKI ACADEMY, THERE WERE JUST TWO OF US LEFT.
TAKING IT EASY THERE EVERY DAY...
EVEN SATORU WAS IN THE LAST FIVE
SHUN WAS THE FIRST TO GRADUATE
MARIA AND REIKO FOLLOWED
SIGH
EH!!
SA... SATORU'S HORROR STORY TOTALLY WASN'T...
HEH... HEH HEH... EVEN THOUGH THE RACE CAT DOESN'T EVEN EXIST!
IT'S NOT LIKE I WON'T GRADUATE, ANYWAY!

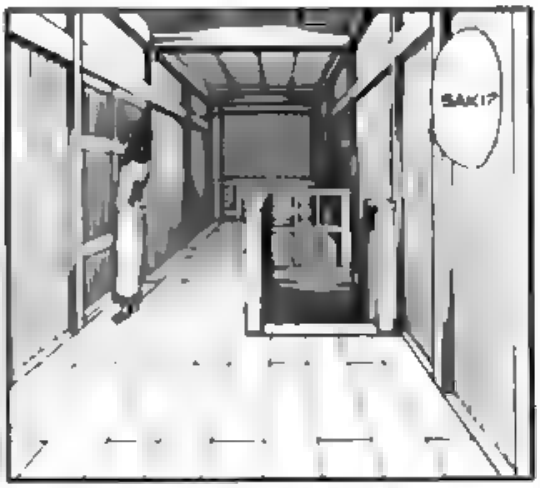
...

T...
TOTALLY
WASN'T
SCARY!
I WONDER
IF I
DROPPED
SOME-
THING.

ガ

SAKI?
IT'S UP TO THE GODS TO DECIDE THE MOMENT ONE'S CANTUS AWAKENS THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH IT.

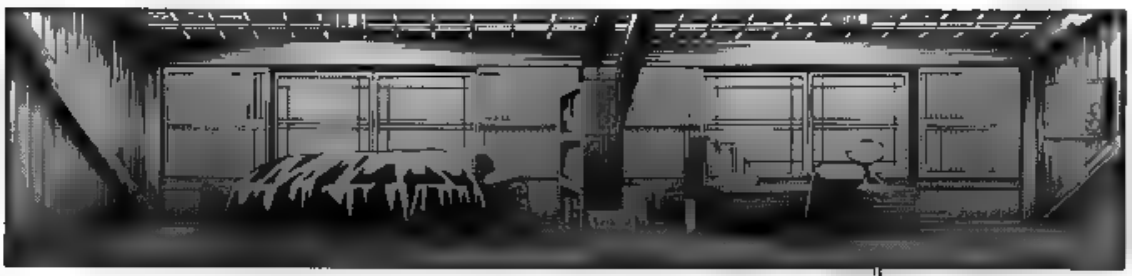
WHAT'S UP? NOT GOING TO EAT?


SAKI?

BUT
WH...WHAT SHOULD I DO? SHOULD I ASK THEM ABOUT IT?
WILL KIDS WHO DON'T GRADUATE BE TAKEN BY THE FAZE CAT?

SATORU IS AN IDIOT!!!
AH, SCREW IT! IT'S ALL SATORU'S FAULT!

NO WAY!
HEY! I'M THE FAZE CAT! IT'S TIME TO TAKE YOUR DAUGHTER BACK!
EXACTLY! HE ALMOST TOOK ME JUST NOW!



キッ
キシ
IS THERE... SOMETHING IN MY ROOM?
キシ
キシ
キシ
THE FAZE CAT CAME TO OUR HOME
WA
ﾊﾊﾊ
ガバ
ガバ
ガバ
ガバ
?!
MO- ... MOTHE- ...
OUT- SIDE ...?!
WHA... WHAT'S GOING ON?!

OW!
!!
IT'S HERE...!!

SOMETHING BIG...
SOMETHING HUGE IS...!!

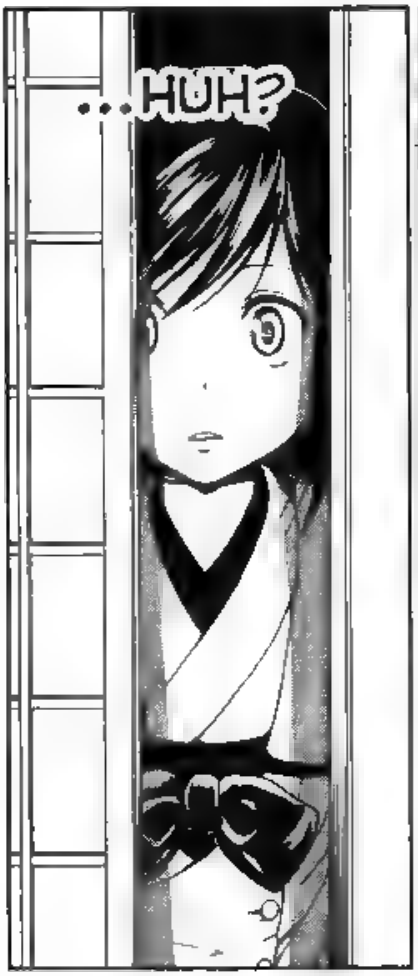
!!
ビカッ
?!
MOM, DAD!!
HELP M—
MO-

ぎゃっ
IT'S ALRIGHT, SAK.! YOU'VE BECOME AN ADULT, TOO!
?
...
MO... THER...?

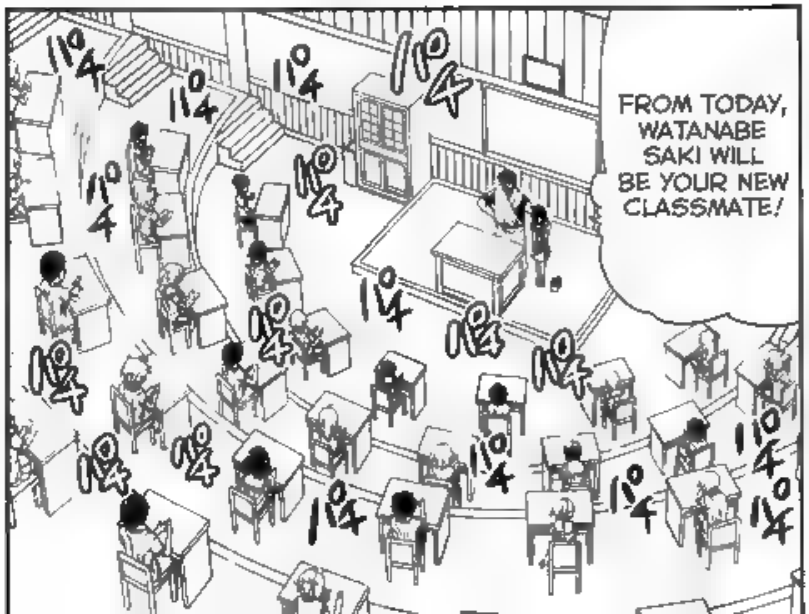
YOU GRADUATED FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TODAY!!
YOUR CANTUS HAS AWAK-ENED.
GRADU...
ATED...?

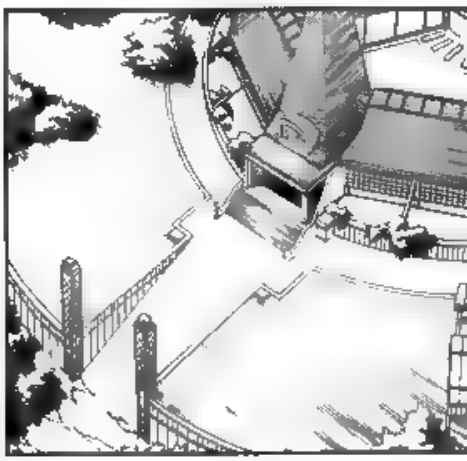
SAKI! HAVE A NICE DAY!
THERE!
I WIIIILL!!
STARTING FROM NOW, I'M IN THE APOTHEOSIS CLASS, TOO. !!
I CAN MEET EVERYONE AGAIN!!
...
HUH!!
SO EMBA-RASS-ING!
I.. FORGOT MY BAG ...
I'M SURE IT WAS CLOSE!

NO! I MEAN .. SHE GOT INTO THE APOTHEOSIS CLASS, DIDN'T SHE?!
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE! YOU'RE WORRYING TOO-
IT WAS DEFINITELY THE FAZE CAT...
ON HER AWAKEN.NG DAY... SAKI LOOKED WEIRD, YOU KNOW?


...HUH?

WHAT IF SAKI CAN'T USE CANTUS WELL, EITHER?!
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE ANOTHER CHILD!!


FROM TODAY, WATANABE SAKI WILL BE YOUR NEW CLASSMATE!



SO GLOOMY !!
WHAT THE HELL?!
OW!
...
PLEASED TO.. MEET YOU..

YOU'RE IN GROUP 1! THAT'S YOUR SEAT THERE!
LOOK, NOW!! NOBODY IN MY CLASS IS ALLOWED TO BE GLOOMY!
HEY!
WHAT ARE
pfphc phfph

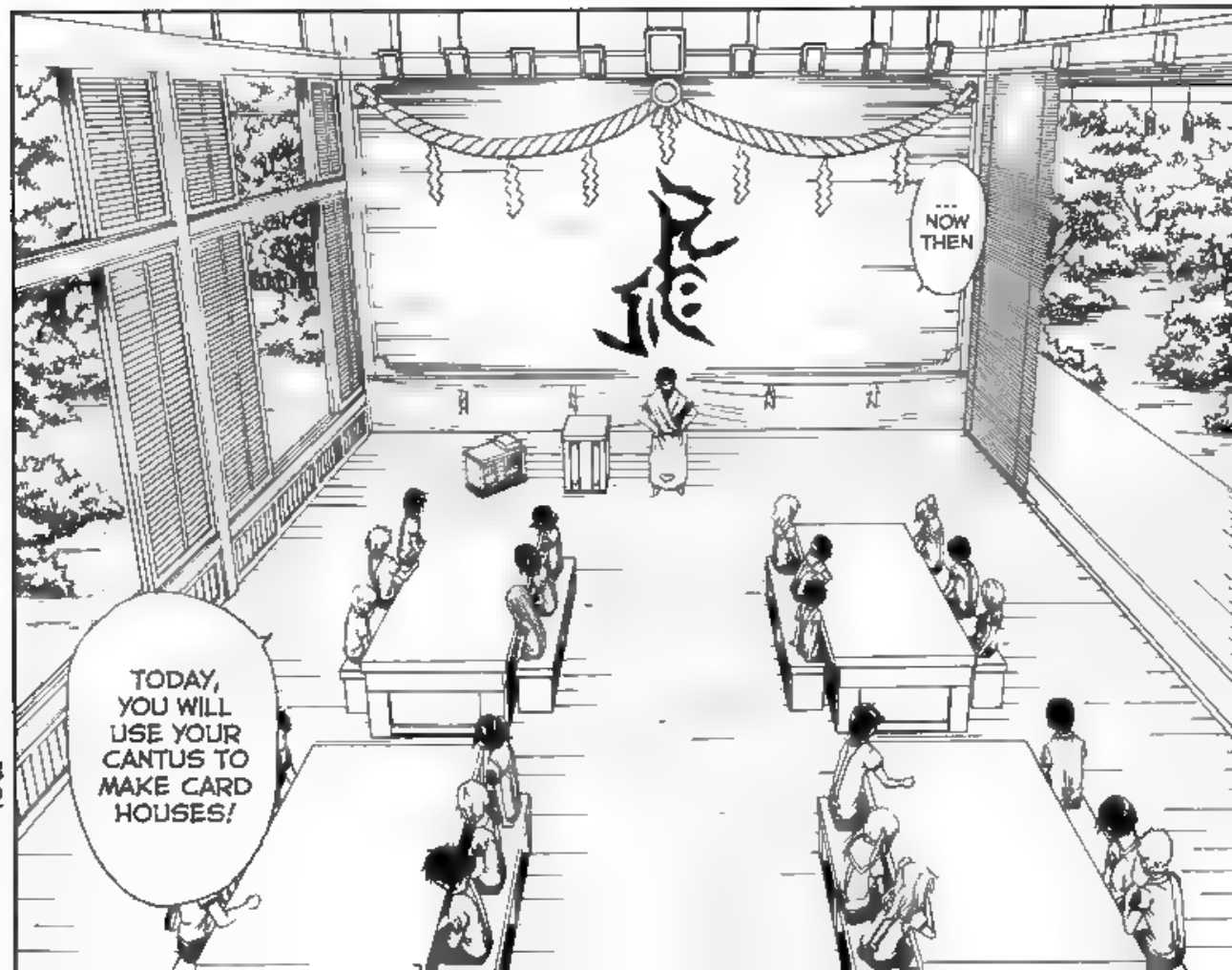
GROUP 1?!
YAY!!
WAI... MARIA!!

YOU TOOK SO LOOONG! I WAS SOOO LONELY!!
I WAS LONELY TOO, YOU KNOW!
SAKI!!!
MARIA!!
たたたっ
REI-KO!
たたたっ
SAKI!

HAHAHA! I THOUGHT YOU HAD GIVEN UP ON GRADUATION!
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL, HAVE YOU?!
I MISSED YOU TWO SO MUCH!!

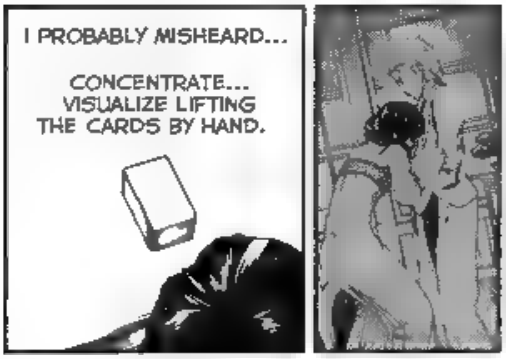
SHUN…
SAKI!
TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.
THANKS FOR WAITING.
…
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO A FELLOW GROUP 1 MEMBER
I'M ITOU MAMORU, FROM YUUAI ACADEMY…
IT… LOOKS LIKE YOUR HEAD IS ABOUT TO BLOW UP! NICE TO MEET YOU!
THAT WAS THE FIRST THING SHE SAID!!
ENOUGH! GO TAKE YOUR SEAT AT GROUP 1!

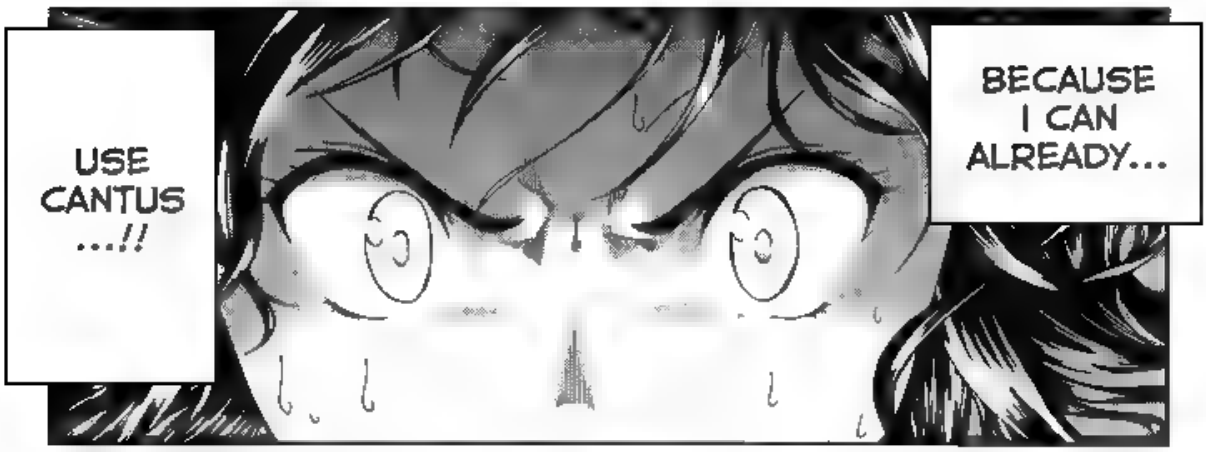
LAST...?
BUT .. THERE WAS ONE MORE
SAKI!
!
TODAY WE GOT OUR LAST GRADUATE, SAKI, SO WE BEGIN OUR STUDIES FOR REAL!
EVEN MORE, WE CAN BE EXCITED ABOUT IT!
AHAHA! I CAN TOTALLY SEE IT!
HIS CONNECTED SIDEBURNS LOOK LIKE A SUN, SO HE'S THE SUN KING!
GUESS WHAT THAT TEACHER'S NICKNAME IS!
UH


... NOW THEN
TODAY, YOU WILL USE YOUR CANTUS TO MAKE CARD HOUSES!

:SIGH:
NOW, BEGIN!
IT'S OKAY...

THE TOURNAMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN PRACTICING FOR IS COMING UP, TOO, SO YOU'D BETTER FOCUS!
THIS IS AN EXERCISE FOR ALL CANTUS-RELATED ABILITIES.


I PROBABLY MISHEARD...
CONCENTRATE... VISUALIZE LIFTING THE CARDS BY HAND.


USE CANTUS ...!!
BECAUSE I CAN ALREADY...

NO GOOD !!
...
HARDER!! VISUALIZE HARDER...!!
...

...
トーン

THA-
WAIT, HOLY CRAP!
NICE JOB.
CONGRATS, SAKI.

I DID IT!!
I DID IIIT!!

AH...
NN...

...
AH ...

I DIDN'T NEED TO WORRY AT ALL, DID I?
ALRIGHT! I CAN DO THAT TOO!

REI...
KO...?
NG
..
AH...
っ……
MM
...
Y-
YES!
HA HA HA!
LOOKS LIKE
YOU STILL
LACK CONTROL,
REIKO!
...
..
NNG
..

HUH?
TAKE IT EASY TONIGHT, YOU TWO!
I'M COMING IN!
YES, MA'AM!
WE WILL
SPECIAL CANTUS TRAINING ...?!
AHAHAHA!
GIGGLE GIGGLE
HUH?! WHAT?!
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE STRUGGLING WITH YOUR CANTUS, REIKO... COULDN'T YOU ASK THE TEACHER FOR A FAVOR?
YEAH!

ACTUALLY, SHUN TOLD ME THE SAME THING, ABOUT ASKING THE SUN KING.
THANKS FOR WORRYING ABOUT ME, SAKI!
COME ON, JUST SIT DOWN! WE'LL WASH YOU!
WHA- WHAT ARE YOU GUYS UP TO?!
WE ALWAYS COME IN LAST PLACE IN THE TOURNAMENTS, SO REIKO FEELS RESPONSIBLE... THIS CAN'T GO ON FOR LONG.
SHUN DID?!
THERE'S NOTHING TO LOSE!
LE... LET'S STOP AFTER ALL...

TEACHER! AT THIS RATE, REIKO WON'T BE ABLE TO CATCH UP! WE NEED PERMISSION TO PRACTICE!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, SCAREDY CAT?!
HUH ?!
THAT'S HARSH
I MEAN, WE SHOULDN'T USE OUR CANTUS OUTSIDE OF CLASS. IT'S AGAINST THE RULES, YOU KNOW? THEY'LL GET MAD AT US.
HMPH...
...
YOU HAVE GOOD FRIENDS, REIKO! BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT!
FWAHA HAHAHA!
HAAAHA HAHA!!
SO THOUGHTFUL, TOO! YOU GUYS ARE GREAT!
EVEN JUST IN CLASS, YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO IMPROVE! CATCHING UP WILL BE HARD, BUT THAT DEPENDS, TOO!
WHETHER SOMEONE'S CANTUS IS WEAK OR STRONG DEPENDS ON THE PERSON! AND THAT'S OKAY!

AND THAT'S THE STORY.
OH, SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS...
DEP-ENDS ON THE PERSON, HUH...
すべ～♡
SO YOU KNOW? I'VE BEEN GOING TO THE LIBRARY LATELY.
SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS.
THERE WERE LOTS OF COOKING METHODS, TOO. AH...
BUT... UM...
WHAT A REL-EF.
I WAS LOOKING UP THE TOOLS FROM WAY BACK.. WITH WEAK CANTUS EVEN SETTING UP A KETTLE WAS HARD
I GUESS YOU KNOW?
THE PROMISE FROM EARLIER ...

SEEMS LIKE THAT... WON'T BE POSSIBLE...
...THAT WE WOULD ALL GO ADVENTURING OUTSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER.
AT ALL!!
THAT'S NOT OKAY
PROTECT REIKO!!
I HAVE TO

OOOOOH?! A SECRET BASE?!
HEHE! ISN'T IT COOL?!
HEY, SAKI!
ARE WE THERE YET?
IT'S JUST THROUGH HERE
HUH ?!

WELL....
SO? WHY DID YOU TELL THEM ABOUT THIS PLACE?
SAKI!

AWE-SOME!
NOBODY ELSE KNOWS THIS PLACE! IT'S THE PLACE FOR JUST US THREE!

IT FEELS LIKE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T GROW UP...
IT REALLY MAKES ME NERVOUS.
EVER SINCE I GOT INTO THE APOTHEOSIS CLASS, EVERY DAY...
FROM HERE ON, I...
...
SO.
PLEASE HELP ME TRAIN MY CANTUS!!
I KNOW I'M BEING SELFISH, BUT...!!
ABOUT TIME YOU ASKED!!!
ドッ
?!

WELL, THEN! NOW...
OR ELSE HE'D BE ALL "LEAVE IT TO ME!"
WELL, LET'S KEEP IT A SECRET FROM MAMORU.
SECRET TRAINING, RIGHT? WE WON'T TELL A SOUL!
I- I WASN'T EVEN THINKING-
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND RE.KO'S REAL FEELINGS, NOR DID . HAVE THE COURAGE TO SUGGEST SECRET TRAINING.
HUH?! WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
YOU'RE AMAZING, SAKI!
YOU ALWAYS SUR- PRISE ME.
UH-UH. YOU'RE SO COOL, SAKI.
TH...
THANKS.

THERE'S THE TOURNAMENT, SO THAT'S OUR GOAL!
LET'S WORK ON MAKING THE CARD HOUSE. BALANCE IS LEARNABLE, AFTER ALL.
Y-YES!
NN...
WHEN I CAN'T GET IT RIGHT..
UM... I JUST VISUALIZE MY HANDS NORMALLY...
FIRST, TELL ME HOW YOU VISUALIZE IT. ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU MESS UP.
!
A DIFFERENT IMAGE APPEARS SLOWLY FROM THE CORNER OF MY EYE...
THE IMAGE SPREADS ...

I ASKED THE SUN KING, BUT HE DIDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING...
I WONDER WHAT'S...
IT'S A FEELING I'VE NEVER HAD...
IT'S FINE!
SO-SORRY!
ビュ
ビュ
ギャ

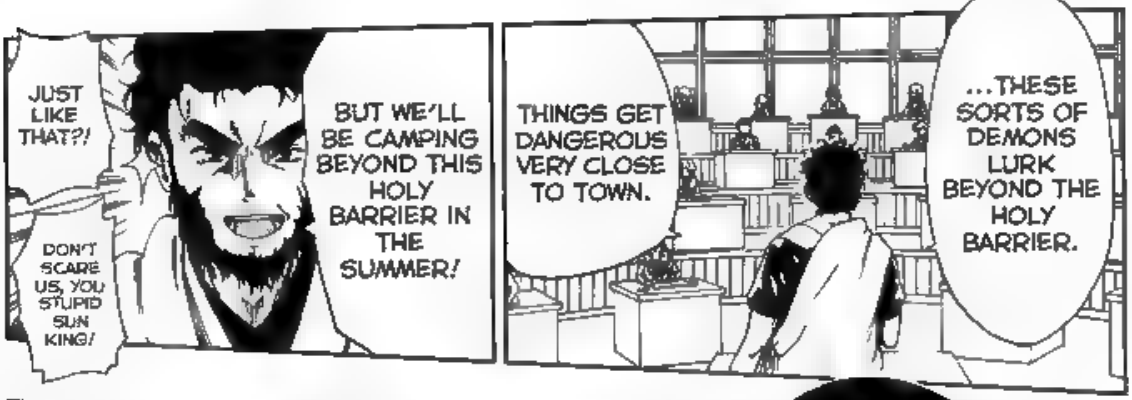
...
THAT MORNING... WHAT FATHER AND MOTHER WERE SAYING... SHOULD I TELL SHUN ABOUT IT?
BUT... AT THIS RATE, EVEN IF IT TURNS OUT THAT SHE CAN'T USE HER CANTUS WELL, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH THAT?

...
IS THAT THE CAUSE OF THE DISTURBANCE, I WONDER?
ANYWAYS, LET'S PRACTICE THIS TO PERFECTION!
YES!

ギャース
ビッガーン

ALRIGHT!! DO YOUR BEST, REIKO!!
ビュ
ポンッ

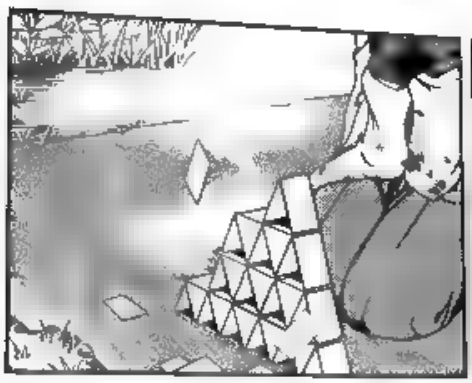
WE WILL BE STUDYING THE TWO FAIRY TALES OF AKKI AND GOUMA. FIRST OFF...
IN THE APOTHEOSIS CLASS,


JUST LIKE THAT?!
DON'T SCARE US, YOU STUPID SUN KING!
BUT WE'LL BE CAMPING BEYOND THIS HOLY BARRIER IN THE SUMMER!
THINGS GET DANGEROUS VERY CLOSE TO TOWN.
...THESE SORTS OF DEMONS LURK BEYOND THE HOLY BARRIER.

OUTSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER FOR A WEEK?! WITH OUR GROUPS?!
HUH ?!
SAK, YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
SUMMER... CAMP...

OH!
AWESOME! I CAN'T WAAAIT!!

LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN KIND OF HANDLE IT NOW, REIKO! I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT TOURNAMENT!
Doo, Doo, Doo
!

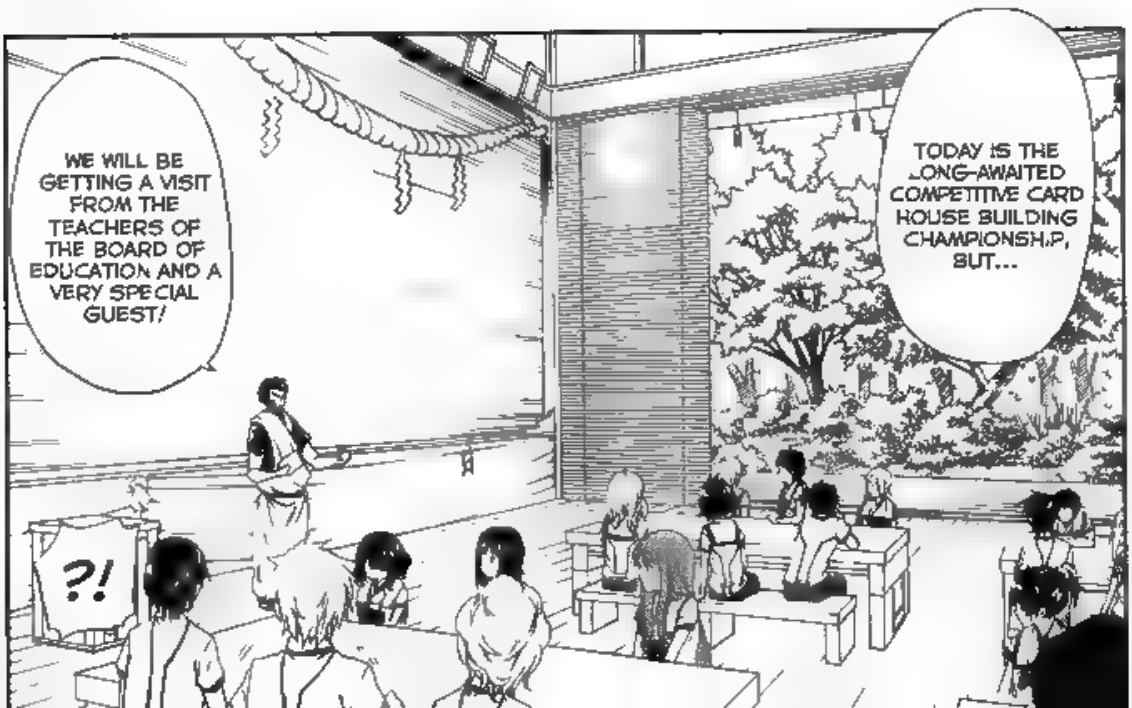


...

IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE HAD SOME SORT OF COUNTER-MEASURE...
BUT... I MANAGED UP UNTIL NOW...

Y...YEAH! BUT I STILL CAN'T KEEP THE CARDS FROM GOING CRAZY ..
AMAZING, REIKO!
WHOOOA!! YOU REALLY GOT A LOT BETTER!

SAKI!! I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK!!
?
...


TODAY IS THE LONG-AWAITED COMPETITIVE CARD HOUSE BUILDING CHAMPIONSHIP, BUT...
WE WILL BE GETTING A VISIT FROM THE TEACHERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND A VERY SPECIAL GUEST!
?!

WHAA-AAAA-AAT?!
SPECIAL GUEST?! DON'T TELL ME ...!!
SOME-THING IN THE SKY.
SATO-RU?
?
ISN'T IT TOO B G FOR THAT?
IT'S A BIRD
...!! NO!!
CARDS!
IT'S A BIRD OF CARDS!!
IT'S HEADED THIS WAY!!
WHA?! IS SOMEONE RIDING IT?!
THAT ...?!
?!

IT'S KABU-RAGI SHISEI !!
WHOA !!
THE STRONG-EST CANTUS USER!!
KABU-RAGI SHISEI CAME HERE!!
DDD

RE:KO, ARE YOU OKAY? ARE YOU NERVOUS?
...
RE:KO?
UM!
!!
SAYING THIS NOW MIGHT SOUND WEIRD, BUT I... BE:NG WITH EVERYONE ...
MAKES ME
SO HAPPY !!!

I LIKE HOW MARIA IS SO HONEST ABOUT HERSELF... BUT ALWAYS SEES THE BEST IN OTHER PEOPLE.
I LIKE HOW SATORU IS BRAVE AND TELLS US LOTS OF EXCITING STORIES.
I LIKE HOW SHUN IS SMART AND PROTECTS EVERYBODY.
SAKI IS ALWAYS THERE TO LEND A HELPING HAND ...
I ALWAYS LOVED THAT!
FOR TOMORROW'S VICTORY AND SO THAT WE CAN ALL BECOME HAPPIER TOGETHER... LET'S DO OUR BEST!
UM...

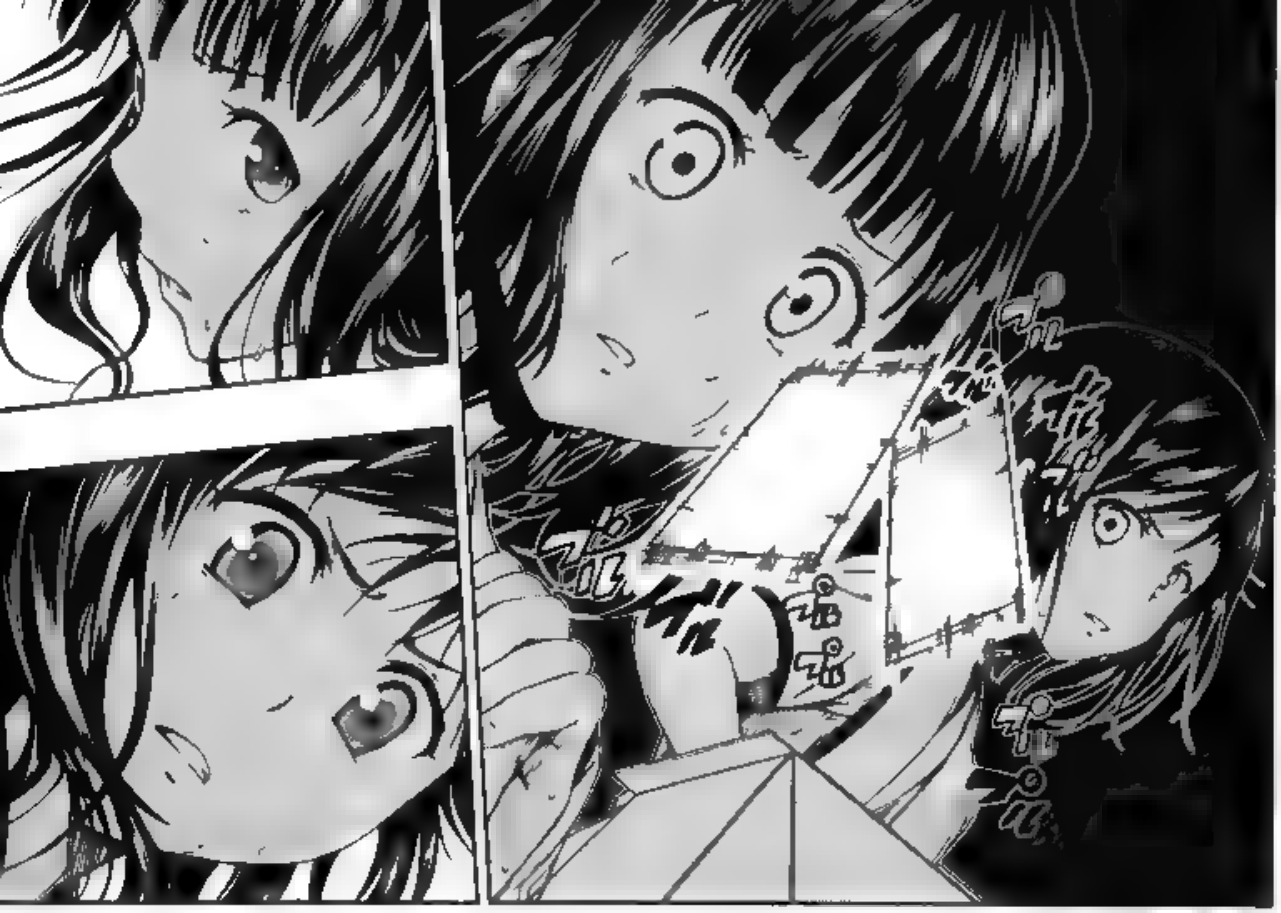
I... I KNOW WHAT YOU GUYS ARE... HIDING.
HUH ...?!
MAMO-RU?

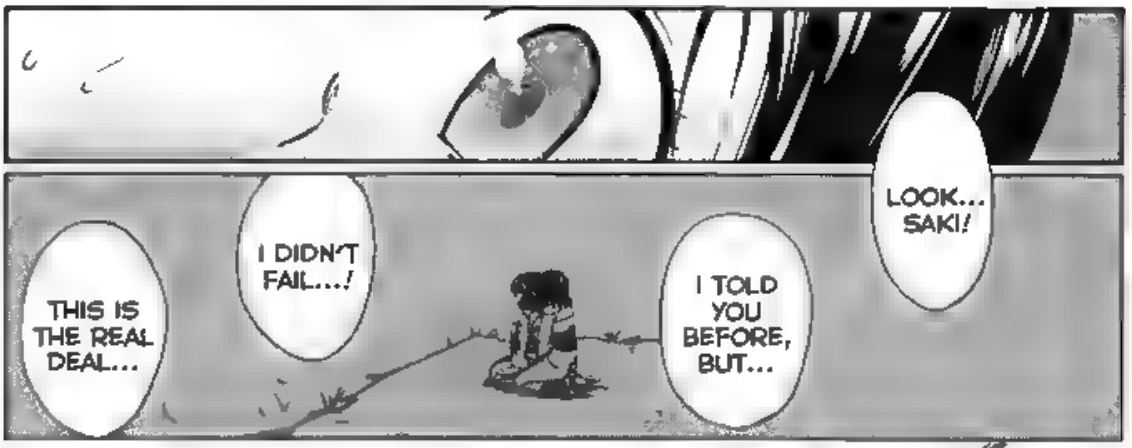
BUT ...
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU NEVER SAID ANYTHING TO PROTECT YOUR FRIEND ...!
I NEVER MENTIONED IT, BUT... AM I NOT ALSO A FRIEND YOU CAN TRUST ABOUT IT?!
...
IT WAS COWARDLY, BUT A PROMISE IS A PROMISE.
IT'S TRUE IF MARIA SAYS IT!
RIGHT, SAKI?!
YEAH!!

TO MAKE THE BEST MEMORIES WITH US 6 MEMBERS OF GROUP 1, TODAY...
SUMMER CAMP STARTS TOMOR-ROW!!

WE MUST WIN!!
YEAH !!!!!
CHECK THAT OUT!
?!
WITH THAT, LET THE GAMES BEGIN!!
NO... WAY?!
WHA ?!

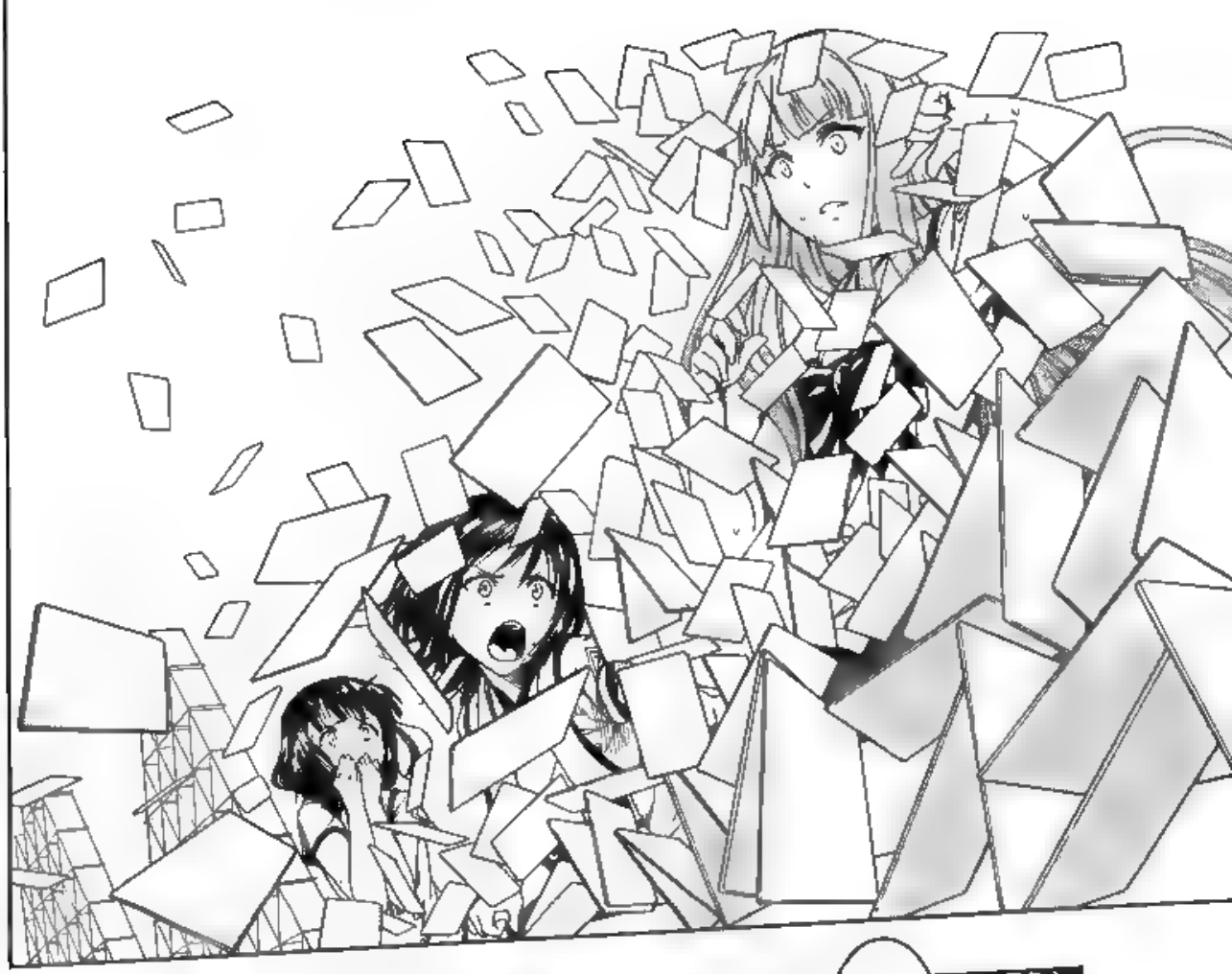
SHE COULDN'T EVEN DO IT NORMALLY!!
THAT REIKO !!
WOW...
WHAT SPEED!!
BUT IT'S GROUP 1, SO REIKO IS BOUND TO MESS UP...! OF COURSE THEY'LL END UP DEAD LAST!!
!!
IT'S NOT JUST REIKO. ALL SIX MEMBERS OF GROUP 1...!!




LOOK... SAKI!
I TOLD YOU BEFORE, BUT...
I DIDN'T FAIL...!
THIS IS THE REAL DEAL...

110
110
110
110
110
ONE MINUTE LEFT!!
SHE'S NOT GONNA BOTCH IT ?!
NO WAY, AT THIS RATE...
?!
WHAT?! SHUN'S STACK!!
OH...
20 SEC-ONDS LEFT!
SO FAST!! HOW MUCH HIGHER CAN HE GO?!
WILL GROUP 1 EMERGE VICTOR-IOUS?!

I CAN USE CANTUS...!!
AMAZING...!!
THANKS TO SAKI...!
8!
7!
6!
5!



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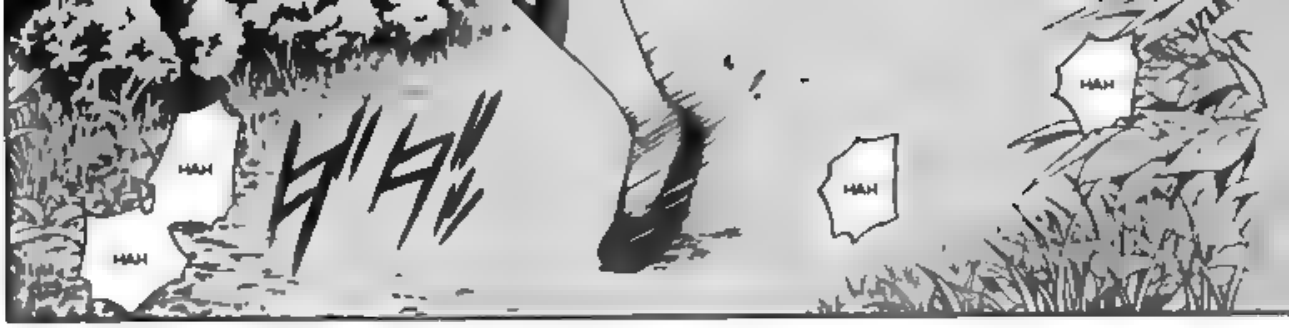
HUH? WHERE'S REIKO. .?
SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO GO HOME ALONE, EARLIER .
OH .

I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
THERE'S NO WAY THAT COULD HAPPEN...
LIKE WE WON'T SEE REIKO A SECOND TIME...

I'M COMING TOO...

WAIT!!

SAKI ?!
...SORRY! I'M GOING HOME WITH REIKO!!


HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

THAT IF KIDS WHO CAN'T USE CANTUS ENTER THE APOTHEOSIS CLASS.
SAKI!! WAS THAT THING FROM EARLIER REALLY TRUE?

NOT HERE! HOW?!
NOT AT HOME, EITHER! OR THE SECRET PLACE!!

PERSONALLY, I THINK IT'S NONSENSE! ANYWAYS, FOR NOW, WE JUST HAVE TO FIND REIKO QUICKLY...
THEY'LL BE TAKEN BY THE FAZE CAT?!

YEAH..
IT WAS JUST THE WIND LET'S GO

THE FAZE CAT'S SHADOW ...?!
SAKI !!

OF COURSE... THERE'S NO WAY A FAZE CAT THAT KIDNAPS CHILDREN COULD EXIST.
...
THERE'S ...NOTHING THERE...?

SINCE THERE'S NEVER BEEN A MISSING CHILD IN THIS TOWN.

?!
I WASN'T THE LAST TO GRAD-UATE!!
YES, THERE HAS!!
THERE SHOULD'VE BEEN ONE PERSON LEFT!!

!!
HOW DID I FORGET THIS UNTIL NOW?!
BUT... I CAN'T REMEMBER THAT KID'S FACE OR NAME... EVEN SO...
CALM DOWN! AS FAR AS CAN REM-EMBER, EVERYBODY ...
THE FAZE CAT IS REAL!!

SHUN... THAT...
HUH ...?

...IT'S REAL!!
THE FAZE CAT'S... BLOOD ?!
KIDS WHO CAN'T USE CANTUS ARE KILLED!!
IN THIS TOWN...

...THE PRECEDING PROPOSAL S BASED ON THE CANTUS RESEARCH RESULTS PUT FORTH BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
AS TO HIM...
I WANT THIS TO BE A MISTAKE, BUT .. I WILL JOIN .N ON SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION.
I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS REGARDING THE ENFORCER.
MM ...!
I CAUSED TROUBLE FOR SAKI AND THE OTHERS, BUT
WE'LL ALL HAVE LOTS OF DURING SUMMER CAMP TARTING OMORROW.

WHAT EXACTLY IS CANTUS?

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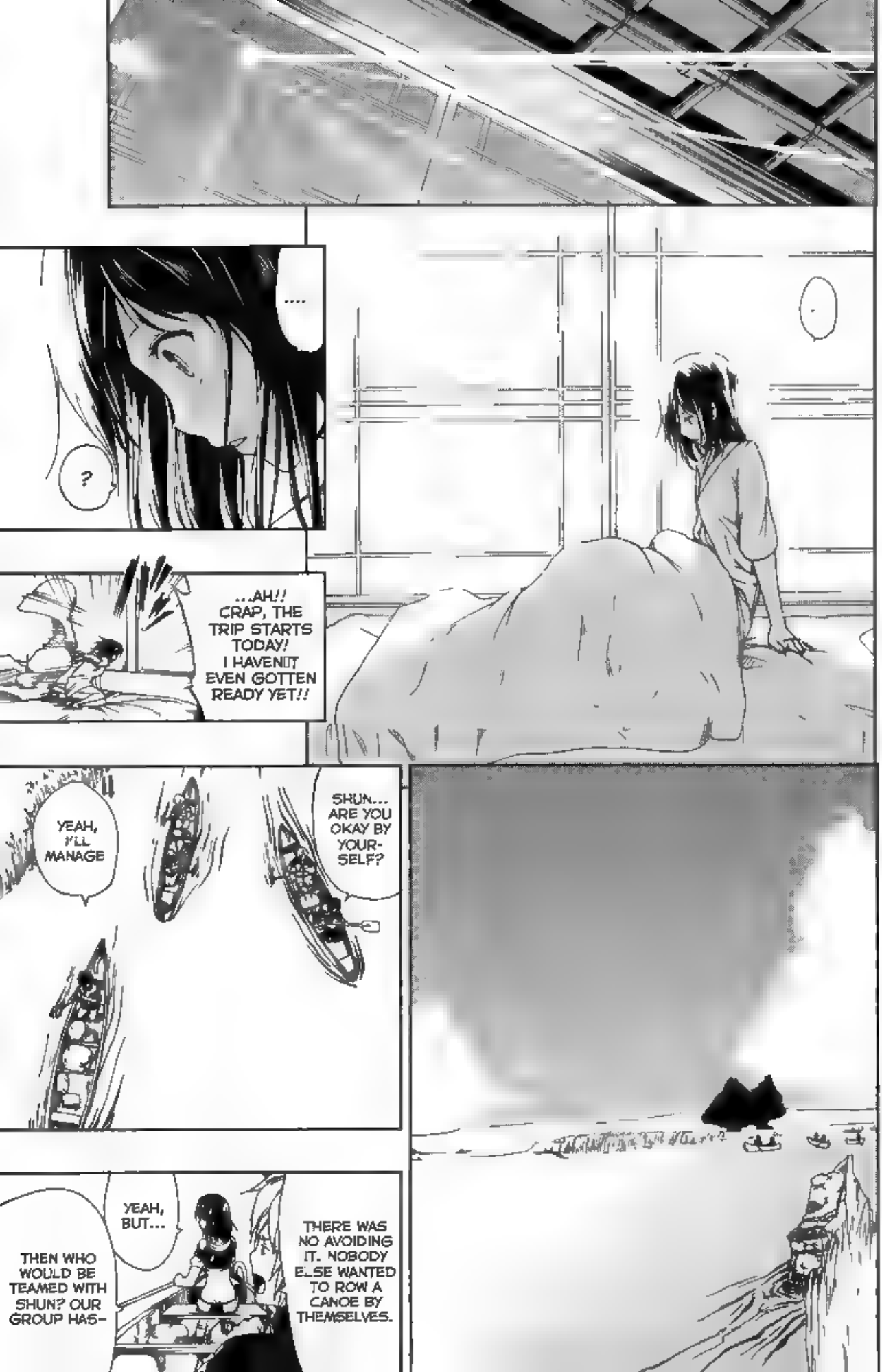

....
?
...AH!! CRAP, THE TRIP STARTS TODAY! I HAVEN'T EVEN GOTTEN READY YET!!
SHUN... ARE YOU OKAY BY YOUR-SELF?
YEAH, I'LL MANAGE
THERE WAS NO AVOIDING IT. NOBODY ELSE WANTED TO ROW A CANOE BY THEMSELVES.
YEAH, BUT...
THEN WHO WOULD BE TEAMED WITH SHUN? OUR GROUP HAS-

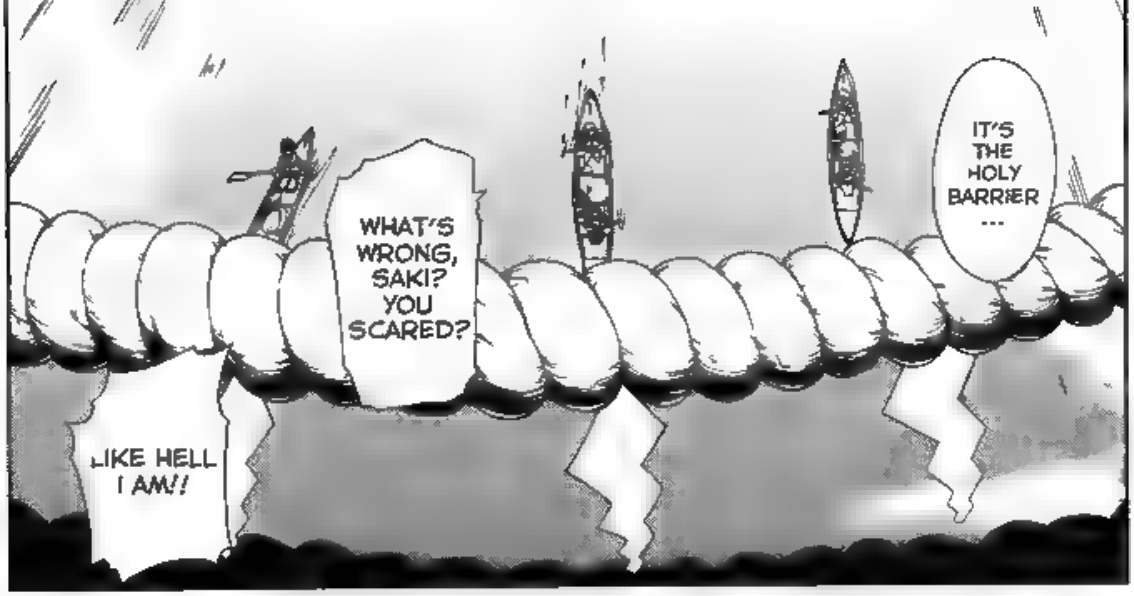
—ONLY 5 PEOPLE, YOU KNOW.

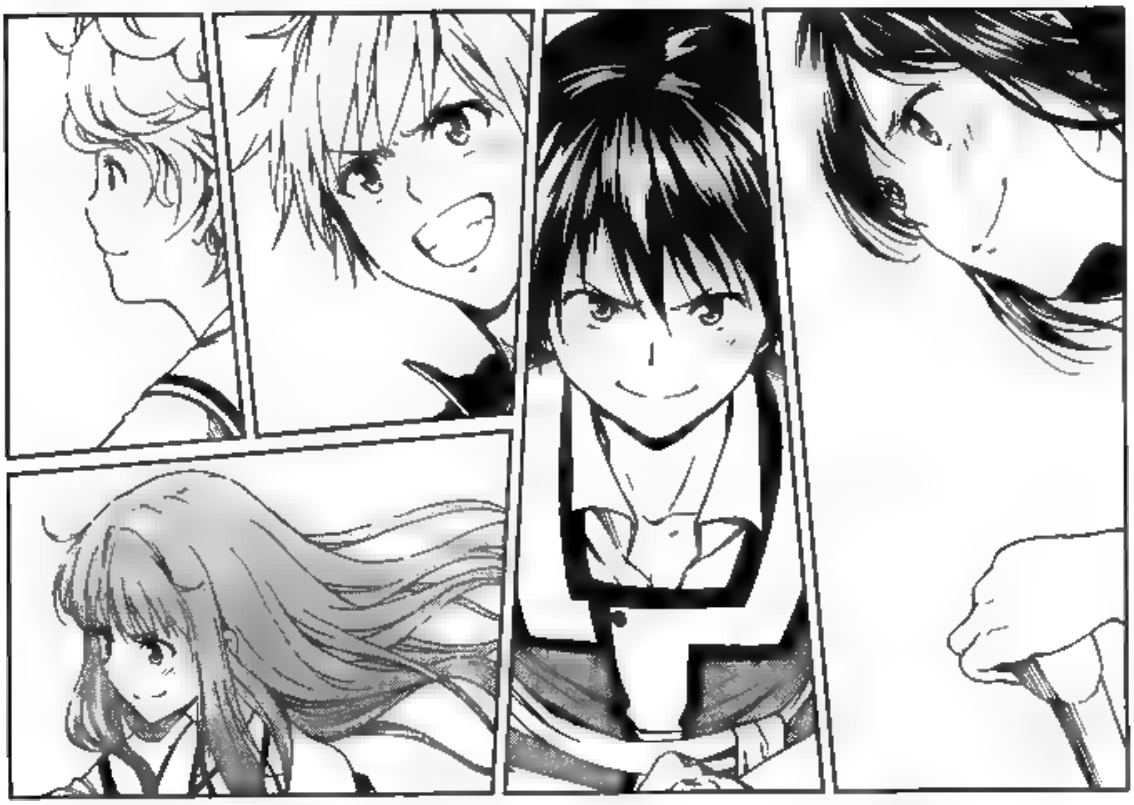
YEAH ..

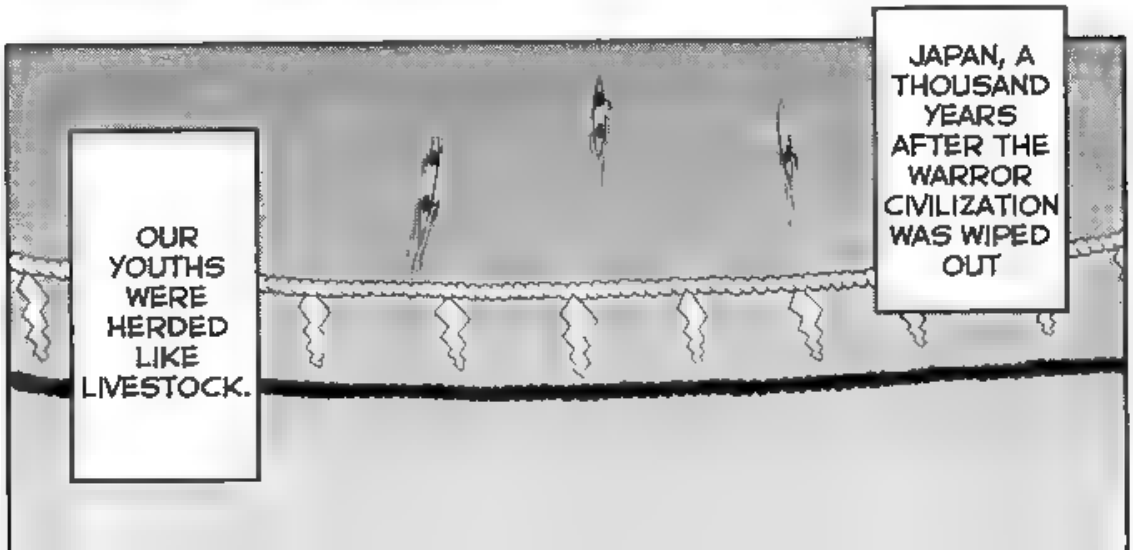
BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!!

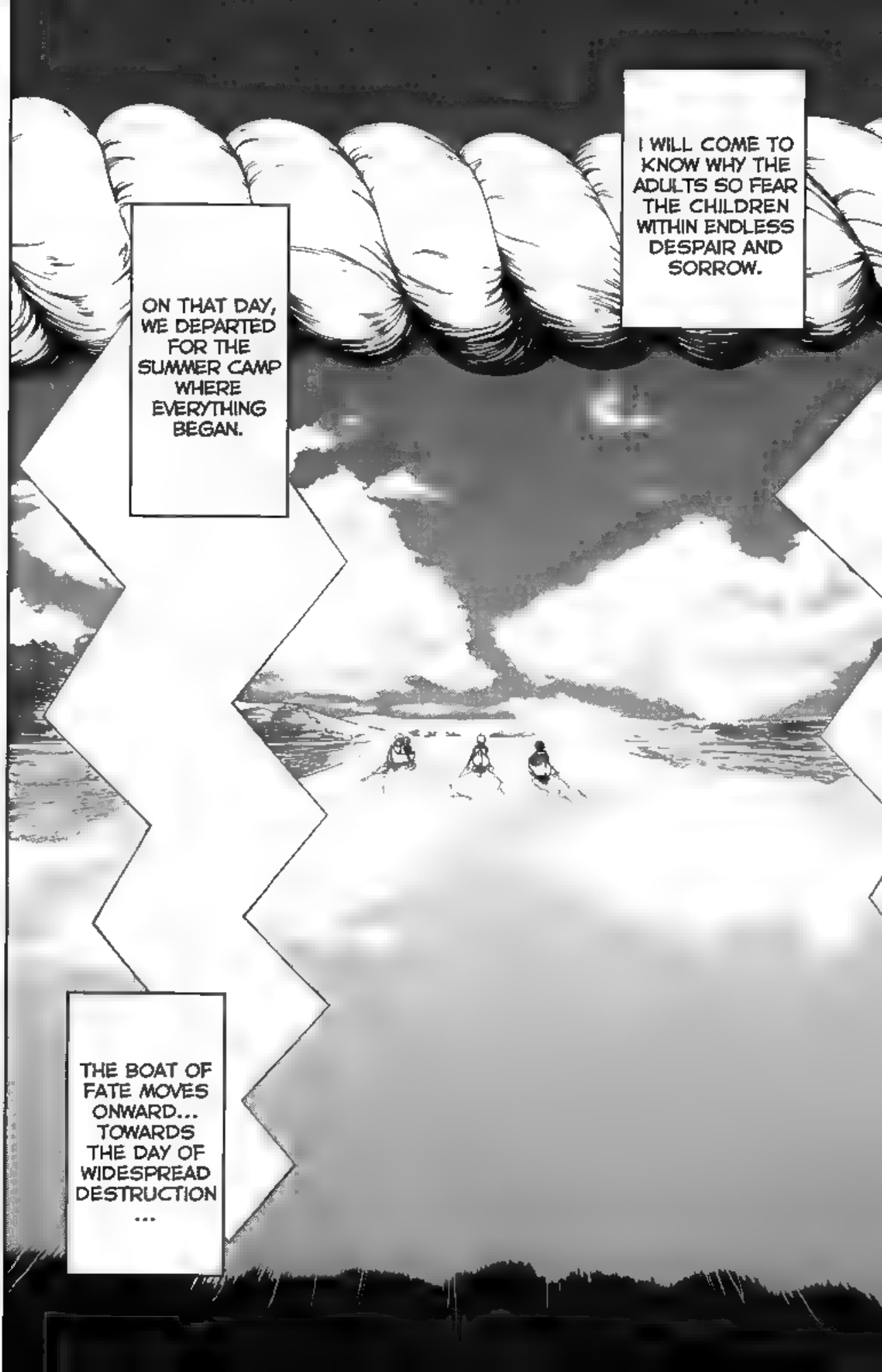
HEEEY! GROUP 1!!
ODD

YOU KNOW, BEING PAIRED WITH SATORU SUCKS.
YOU LITTLE ...!!
AHAHA-HAHA!!


IT'S THE HOLY BARRIER ...
WHAT'S WRONG, SAKI? YOU SCARED?
LIKE HELL I AM!!




JAPAN, A THOUSAND YEARS AFTER THE WARROR CIVILIZATION WAS WIPED OUT
OUR YOUTHS WERE HERDED LIKE LIVESTOCK.


I WILL COME TO KNOW WHY THE ADULTS SO FEAR THE CHILDREN WITHIN ENDLESS DESPAIR AND SORROW.
ON THAT DAY, WE DEPARTED FOR THE SUMMER CAMP WHERE EVERYTHING BEGAN.
THE BOAT OF FATE MOVES ONWARD... TOWARDS THE DAY OF WIDESPREAD DESTRUCTION ...

HEY, THIS SEEMS LIKE A BAD IDEA AFTER ALL!!
GROW A PAIR, WILL YOU?
BUT
WE'RE HERE ALREADY THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO CHICKEN OUT!
NOW, WE'RE OFF!
AWW YEAH!

VISITING THE RESTRICTED AREA IS JUST...!!
THIS REALLY DOES SEEM LIKE A BAD IDEA!
THE CAUSE WAS FROM TEN DAYS PRIOR... IT WAS SATORU'S HORROR STORY...
新世界より

Chapter 2
Out of the Holy Barrier

THEY WERE HIRED TO WORK ON THE STONE WALL.
MMM, I STILL CAN'T MAKE OUT THEIR FACES...
FOR REAL?!
LOOK, QUEER-RATS!!
OH...
LOOKS LIKE THEY ONLY STAY OUT OF THE HOLY BARRIER WHEN THEY'RE WORKING. I GUESS YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THEM UNTIL YOU GROW UP?
WE'RE TOLD THAT CHILDREN SHOULDN'T GO NEAR THE QUEERATS... WHAT SHOULD WE DO...?
OH YEAH, DID YOU KNOW?
SATORU...
IT'S GOTTA BE TRUE, OR ELSE THEY WOULDN'T LISTEN TO WHAT WE SAY.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, SAKI! DO YOU THINK THE WHOLE "THE QUEERATS TREAT CANTUS USERS AS GODS" STORY IS TRUE?
WHOA! I WANT TO GROW UP QUICKLY AND BE CALLED A GOD!

WHO DON'T LISTEN TO HUMANS?
THAT THERE ARE THESE FALSE QUEERATS

YEAH, YEAH, YOU TOLD ME!
BUT THIS IS THE TRUTH ABOUT MOUNT TSUKUBA. HEARD IT FROM PEOPLE WHO SAW THEM. .
HOLD IT, SATORU! DON'T I KEEP TELLING YOU TO SHUT IT WITH YOUR HORROR STORIES?!

..
HUH?! WHA- WHAT'S THAT?!

THEY SAY THAT FALSE QUEERATS LOOK EXACTLY LIKE REAL ONES.
FIRST THEY'LL PRETEND TO SUBMIT TO HUMANS, LIKE THE REAL THING.
BUT DROP YOUR GUARD, AND...

AAA-
AAA-
AAA-
AAH-
HH!!
MARIA
!!

SATORU,
YOU...!!

THE FOOTHILLS OF MOUNT TSUKUBA?

YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING ON WITH YOUR LITTLE HORROR STORIES. NOW YOU'VE CONTRADICTED YOURSELF SO WE KNOW YOU'RE LYING!!
I MENTIONED MOUNT TSUKUBA YESTERDAY ...?!
HOW LONG DID YOU THINK YOU COULD KEEP SCARING MARIA LIKE THAT?!
SAKI ...
THAT'S RIGHT! THE PLACE WHERE FALSE QUEERATS WERE SIGHTED!!

UGH.
AND MAKE SURE YOU CAN NEVER TELL A HORROR STORY EVER AGAIN!!
DURING THIS SUMMER CAMP, I'LL PROVE THAT ALL OF YOUR STORIES ARE MADE UP...

FOR... FOR NOW...
HOLD ON A SEC!!

...TRY ME! YOU'LL APOLOGIZE FOR ACCUSING ME OF BEING A LIAR!!
OR WILL YOU STAY BEHIND SINCE YOU'RE AFRAID OF GETTING FOUND OUT, HMM?

WE SHOULDN'T GO INSIDE LAKE KASUMIGAURA/ DIDN'T THE TEACHERS TELL US NOT TO?
IT WOULD DEFINITELY BE BAD!! IT'LL BE DANGEROUS IF WE GO ALONE!!
...
WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT IT WOULD SUCK IF THEY FOUND OUT.
AWWW! BUT WE ALREADY WENT TO ALL THE TROUBLE...
ガラ
I WANT TO GO!
WE'LL NEVER HAVE A CHANCE LIKE THIS AGAIN!
!!
SHUN ...!!
WHAA-AAT?! EVEN YOU, SHUN ?!
OH?
IT'S RARE TO HEAR A THING LIKE THAT ...
B-BUT... YOU KNOW ...
SATORU! CONVINCE HIM!!
NO, NO, MAMORU! ARE YOU OKAY WITH COPYING ALL THE OTHER TEAMS?! OUR BEST-

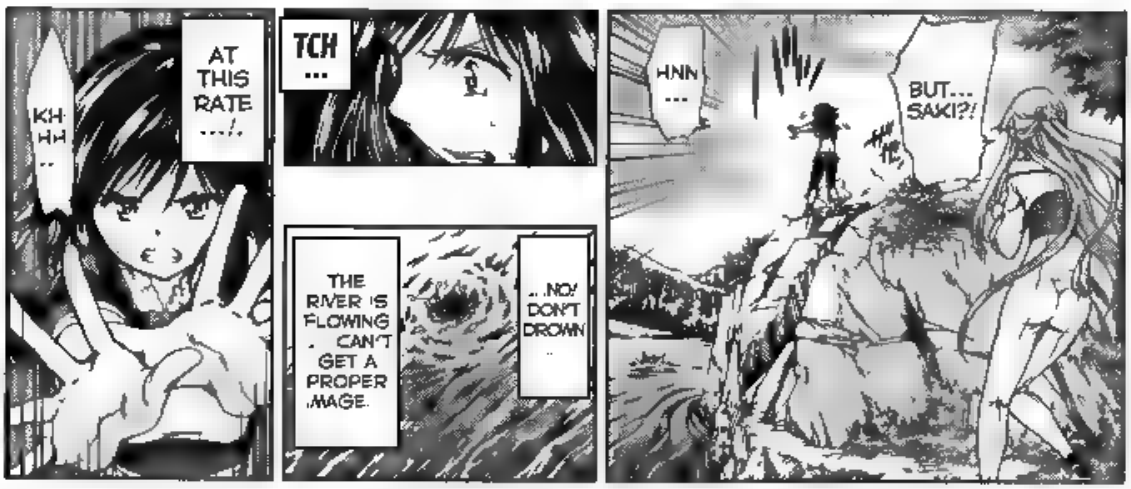
AND SO...
WAAAH, WE REALLY CAME!!
IT'S THE RESTRICTED AREA! LET'S HURRY AND GO BAAACK!!
MAMO-RU, SHUT UP!!
HOW MANY TIMES ARE YOU GONNA SAY THAT?! GOING ON AND ON IN THE BOAT...
MAR.A ...
YOU'RE SUCH A JSELESS COWARD!!
AHHH, YOU KNOW, I REALLY WANT A LOG BATH FOR MARIA AND I TO CUDDLE IN...
OH GOSH, I'LL MAKE ONE!!
I'M OOOFF— ♡
...
NONE OF YOU ARE SCARED ...?
NEITHER THE BORDER NOR THE ADULTS CAN PROTECT US HERE.
IT'S OUTSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER

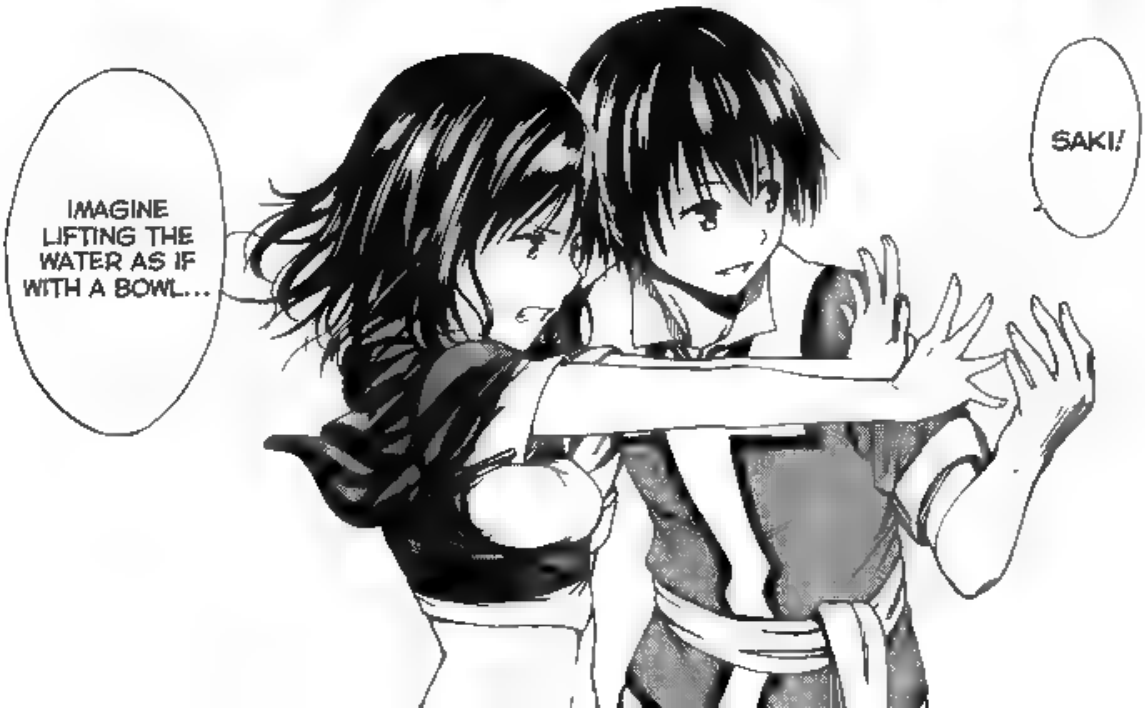
AND IF WE RUN INTO AKKI, WE...
IT'S JUST THAT OUTSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER THERE COULD BE AKKI OR GOUMA, RIGHT?
... BUT
WE CAN ALREADY USE CANTUS, CAN'T WE?
'COURSE NOT!
AKK WILL FOLLOW, HUNT DOWN, AND KILL ANY PERSON UNLUCKY ENOUGH TO CROSS PATHS WITH THEM.
GOUMA WILL MUTILATE ANYTHING IN THEIR PATH.
WE HAVE BEEN TAUGHT ABOUT AKKI AND GOUMA FROM A YOUNG AGE.
THEY'RE THE NATURAL ENEMIES OF HUMANS WHO BEAR THE GOD-LIKE "CANTUS" POWER.
...
BUT... THEY HAVEN'T SHOWN UP FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS. WE LEARNED THAT, RIGHT?
IT'D BE UNLIKELY FOR US TO MEET ONE.

A QUEER-RAT IS DROWN-ING!!
ビクッ
BAD NEWS !!
TROUBLE!! WE GOT TROUBLE!!
NO... NO WAY?!
バチャ
バチャ
バチャ
バチャ
HELP?!
WE HAVE TO HELP, QUICK!!
OH NO!!
WHOA, SHE'S RIGHT!

YOU MUSTN'T HELP IT!! WE'RE NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO GET CLOSE TO QUEERATS!
HUH?! BUT...
TH... THAT IS TRUE. IT'D BE BAD IF THE ADULTS FOUND OUT...
MARIA ?!
ABOVE ALL, THAT ...
COULD BE A FALSE QUEERAT'S TRAP!
BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER RIGHT NOW!
SATORU, IS THERE A WAY TO TELL THEM APART?
...
UHH... OH, YEAH!
QUEERATS HAVE THE NAME OF THEIR COLONY TATTOED ON THEIR FOREHEADS, RIGHT?
FALSE ONES DON'T HAVE THAT, SINCE THEY DON'T DEAL WITH HUMANS!!
...
NO GOOD!! THE FOREHEAD IS HIDDEN.
SAKI ?!
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO...
...!
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S FAKE OR NOT!!
NO MATTER WHAT, WE CAN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH QUEERATS!!

IT'LL DIE IF WE DON'T HELP IT!!
YOU'RE ALL SO HEART-LESS!!


KH HH ..
AT THIS RATE ...!.
TCH ...
THE RIVER IS FLOWING . CAN'T GET A PROPER .MAGE.
..NO! DON'T DROWN ..
HNN ...
BUT... SAKI?!


IMAGINE LIFTING THE WATER AS IF WITH A BOWL...
SAKI!

SHUN!
ALRIGHT...!
VISUAL-IZE LIFTING IT UP!!
FOCUS... VISUAL-IZE IT!
ぽこ
ぽこ
ぽこ
ぽこ
?!
I'M GONNA...
SAVE YOU NOW!

I DID IT!!

ドチャン

SAKI, BE CAREFUL! IT COULD STILL BE A FALSE QUEERAT ...
YEAH, I KNOW.

?!

..

PROST-
RATE...?

FIRST THEY PRETEND TO SUBMIT TO HUMANS LIKE THE REAL THING. BUT ONCE YOU DROP YOUR GUARD...

THE TATTOO.. I'LL MAKE SURE IT'S THERE.
DO YOU UNDERST-AND ME? STAY STILL, OKAY?

IT'S THERE!
PHEW...
塩5o3
COME TO THINK OF IT...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A QUEBRAT'S FACE...
OH K
O.
OH. KHODS. KIKI..

JGH, GROSS...
THIS IS A QUEERAT...?!
YEAH.. I IMAGINED THEM TO BE CUTER THAN THIS.
EEK!
IT DOESN!T GET ANYTHING BUT GREAT GODS, BUT IT'LL BE F.NE, RIGHT?
UN DER STOO—KIKI CRET CAHD
GOT IT, YOU? DON'T TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT US PASSING BY!
YEAH...
SAKI... WE SHOULD GO...
DOES IT EVEN KNOW WHAT YOUIRE SAYING?
WHAT AN UNPLE-ASANT FACE...
IS IT SAYING SOMETHING? MAYBE ITIS TRYING TO THANK US...
...
WA IT, CR EAT GODS
DA KIKI P D KIKA— KOL
RS P.D KIKI
O GR T KH— KADS DAN

S-
SPI...
DER
KODS...
RU...N...
DAN...GER..

七ラニ

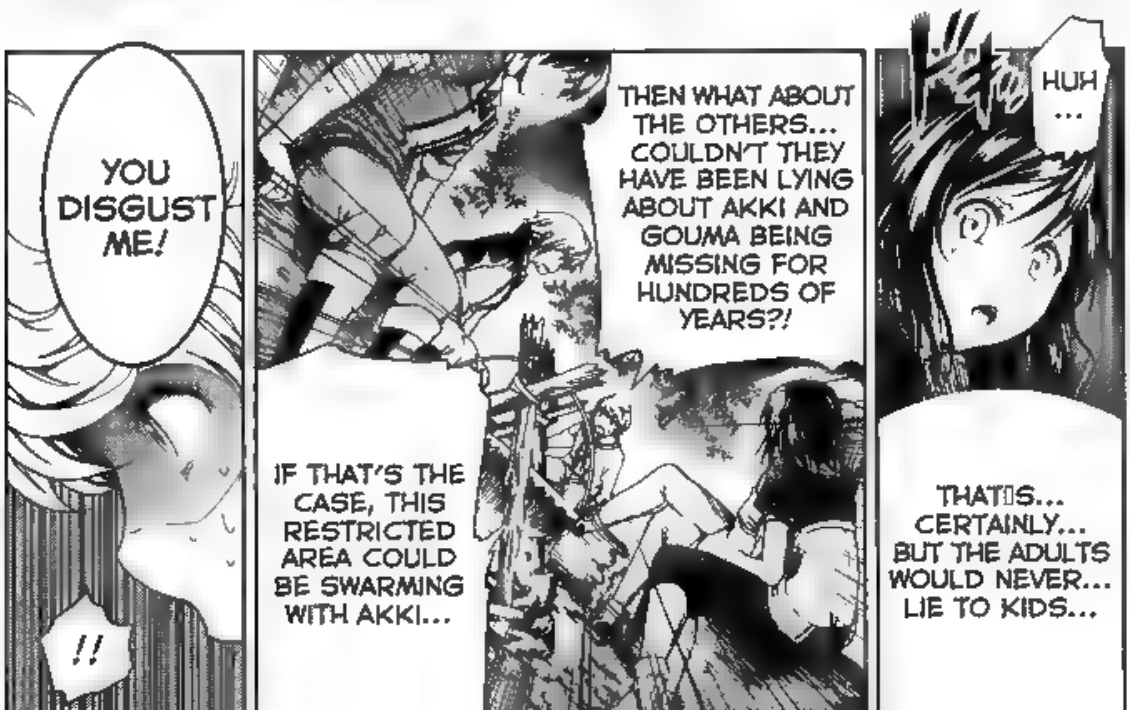
...

HEY...

THIS IS SOOO TASTY!!
FOOD REALLY TASTES BETTER AFTER RUNN.NG AROUND ALL DAY!
GOOD JOB ON THE FIRST DAY!

SEEING A QUEERAT UP CLOSE IS JUST TOO MUCH!
?
I AM!!
YOU'RE STILL SCARED?
LET'S GET OUT OF THE RESTRICTED AREA NOW...

THE ADULTS WERE HIDING THE TRUTH FROM US CHILDREN!!
DID THE ADULTS EVER SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE QUEERATS BEING UGLY CREATURES?


YOU DISGUST ME!
!!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THIS RESTRICTED AREA COULD BE SWARMING WITH AKKI...
THEN WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS... COULDN'T THEY HAVE BEEN LYING ABOUT AKKI AND GOUMA BEING MISSING FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS?!
HUH ...
THAT IS... CERTAINLY... BUT THE ADULTS WOULD NEVER... LIE TO KIDS...

...
SORRY ...
STOP, ALL OF YOU!
HOLD ON, MARI-
LISTEN UP, GUYS.
SHUN ..?
ACTUALLY, I KNOW OF ONE OF THE TRUTHS MAMORU S TALKING ABOUT
WHAT'S YOUR POINT, TRYING TO MAKE US ALL UNEASY WITH A CONSTANT STREAM OF THREATS?
YOU'RE A HORRIBLE, STINKING COWARD!!

HOW ABOUT IT?

S THIS THE SAME PERSON?

IF YOU SLEEP NOW AND FOLLOW ME TOMORROW MORNING, I CAN SHOW YOU, SO...
IT'S ONLY UNKNOWN OUTSIDE OF THE HOLY BARRIER... THE PERPETUALLY HIDDEN LIES!!

H...HEY, SHUN! ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU TOLD US WHAT YOU'RE GETTING US INTO AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
IT'LL BE FINE! YOU'LL GET IT SOON ENOUGH.
JUST FOLLOW ME!
WHAT? SHUN IS BEING ODDLY PUSHY TODAY...
きょろ
きょろ

AFTER HEARING MAMORU TODAY, I KEEP EXPECTING SOMETHING BAD TO POP UP, AND I'M STRANGELY TIRED...
I'M PROBABLY THINKING TOO HARD ABOUT ADULTS LYING TO KIDS, BUT ...THIS IS INDEED THE PLACE OUTSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER WHERE THE TEACHERS TOLD US NOT TO VISIT... IF THERE'S ANYTH-

MM
WHAT'S *SOMETHING*?
GUYS, LOOK!! SOMETHING'S THERE!!
LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING HORRIBLE... A WILD DOG OR SOMETHING?
FEELS LIKE SOME SORT OF WILD BEAST - FOOD CHAIN?
A QUEERAT'S CORPSE...!
WONDER WHAT... THIS CORPSE...
SOMETHING... WEIRD...?
UGH, GROSS... IT'S REALLY GOOEY...

WHAT KIND OF TRUTH WOULD BE HIDING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
HUH?! WHOA, THE PEAK?!

GUYS! WE'RE HERE. LOOKS LIKE WE GOT HERE IN TIME!
!

THEN... FOR WHAT...
HUH ?!
WHAT ?!
SORRY, THAT WAS A LIE.

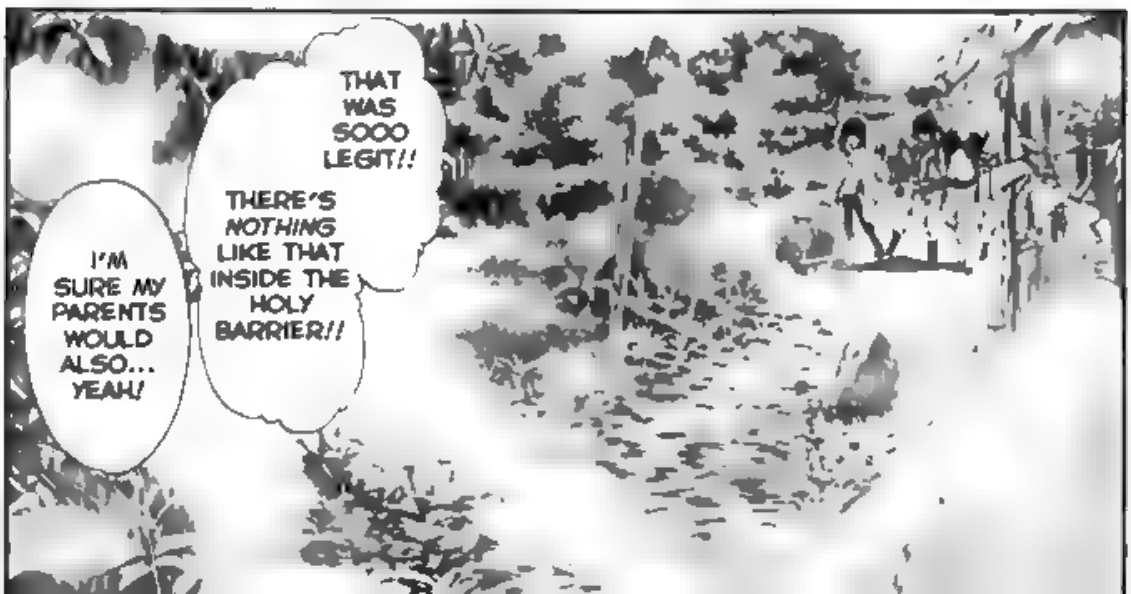
THAT WOULD BE...

THERE'S ONLY SHORT MOUNTAINS INSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER, RIGHT?

THAT'S WHY I JUST HAD TO BRING YOU ALL HERE.

AMAZ-
.NG.
I'VE NEVER SEEN COLORS. THIS BEAU-TIFUL.
SAKI!
SHUN! YOU KNEW ABOUT ALL THIS?!

HUH?! IS THAT MOUNT FUJI?!
WHOA...
YEAH. YOU CAN SEE ALL OF KANTO PLAIN.
AMAZ-ING...
AMAZ-ING!!


THAT WAS SOOO LEGIT!!
THERE'S *NOTHING* LIKE THAT INSIDE THE HOLY BARRIER!!
I'M SURE MY PARENTS WOULD ALSO... YEAH!

I BET THE ADULTS HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN SUCH AMAZING COLORS BEFORE!
THANKS, SHUN!
IT'S A SECRET TREASURE BETWEEN JUST US 5!!

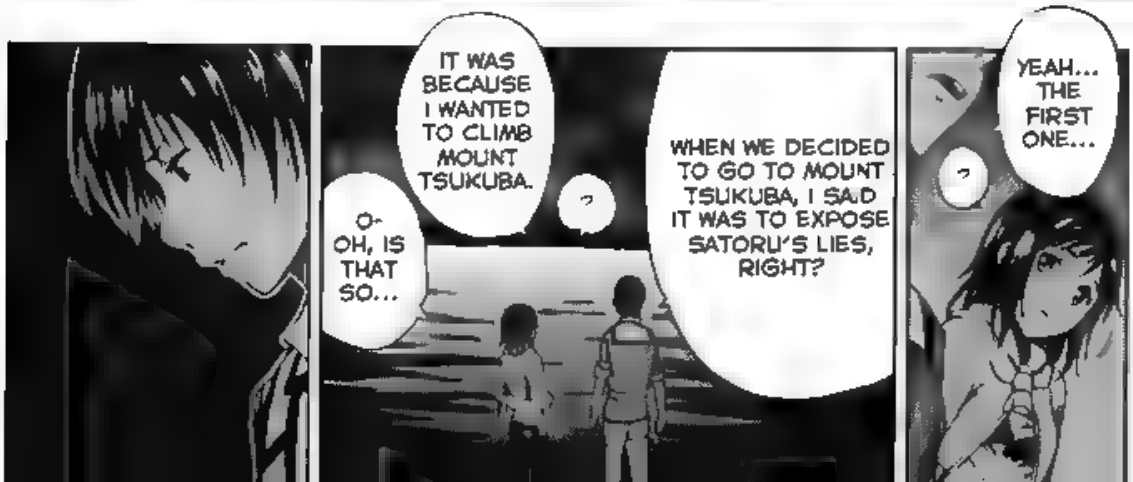
...
HUH?!
HUH?!
...

I'M GLAD...
WE CAME...

AHAHA-HAHAHA!!
WHO WAS THE ONE WHO SAID WE SHOULD GO BACK, AGAIN?
PFFFAHAHA!! THAT WAS TOO GOOD, MAMORU!!

ピュー
ピュー
ピュー
ピュー
ドドドド
…

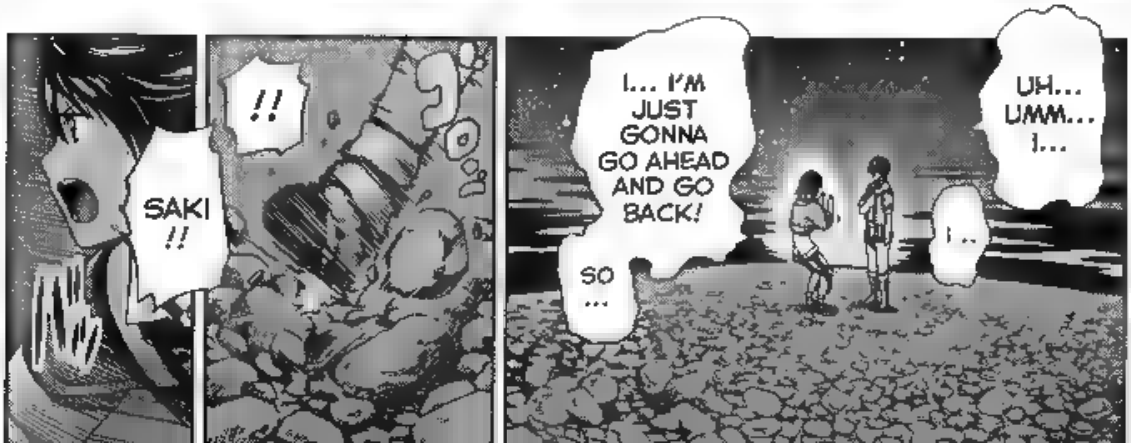
SHUN.
SAKI? SOMETHING WRONG?
...
YOU'VE ALWAYS SAID YOU WANTED TO GO ON A TRIP TO SEE PRETTY COLORS.
IT'S ALREADY NIGHT, BUT I'M STILL REALLY EXCITED. I WAS THINKING IT WOULD BE DISAPPOINTING TO BE ALONE.
THOSE COLORS WERE REALLY WONDERFUL...
YEAH! MY DREAM CAME TRUE!


O-OH, IS THAT SO...
IT WAS BECAUSE I WANTED TO CLIMB MOUNT TSUKUBA.
WHEN WE DECIDED TO GO TO MOUNT TSUKUBA, I SAID IT WAS TO EXPOSE SATORU'S LIES, RIGHT?
YEAH... THE FIRST ONE...

NO WAY! SINCE ...
IT WAS NOTHING.
REALLY? BUT DID YOU EVEN HAVE ANY TIME AT ALL TO STUDY?
IT WAS NOTHING
ACTUALLY, MOUNT TSUKUBA ONLY SHOWS UP ON ANCIENT MAPS WASN'T IT A BOTHER TO STUDY ABOUT?
NOTHING COULD COMPARE TO
BEING BY YOUR SIDE WHEN YOUR FIRST DREAM CAME TRUE, SAKI...!
HUH ...?
BUT THERE'S STILL ONE LEFT!
SO I'M GLAD WE GOT THE FIRST ONE DOWN TOGETHER
IN THE FUTURE, I THINK A PERSON LIKE ME WOULD ACT UNEXPECTEDLY TOWARDS PEOPLE I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH.
YOU'RE AMAZING, SAKI!

SO THIS TIME...
CAN I ASK YOU TO BE THERE WITH ME WHEN MY DREAM IS FULFILLED?

W... WHY AM I...
HUH?!
HUH?!


!!
SAKI !!
I... I'M JUST GONNA GO AHEAD AND GO BACK!
SO ...
UH... UMM... I...
I..

...
...
SHUN...

HEEEEY, SAKIIII!!
!!
GET OVER HERE! MAMORU'S DRAWING IS TOO COOL!
I... 'M ON MY WAY!!
LOOK, IT'S YOU GUYS.
ISN'T IT PERFECT? I'D NO IDEA WE HAD SUCH TALENT HERE!!
HEHE
...SO, MARIA, HERE'S TODAY'S...
YEAH, YEAH.
DUDE
DON'T TELL ME YOU MAKE HIM DRAW EVERY DAY?!
HMPH.
AS IT IS, I WOULDN'T MIND IF TIME STOPPED.
...
...SO I WISHED.
SIGH
...IF TIME FROZE AT THIS INSTANT...

SOMETHING DISAPPEARED BETWEEN THESE FIVE...
BEFORE LONG... LIKE MISSING TEETH IN A COMB,

AAAH, I'M BEAT...
WE DIDN'T FIND A SINGLE QUEERAT ON THE FIRST DAY...
:YAAA-WN:

THIS IS THE BEST ♡
AAAAA AAAHHH

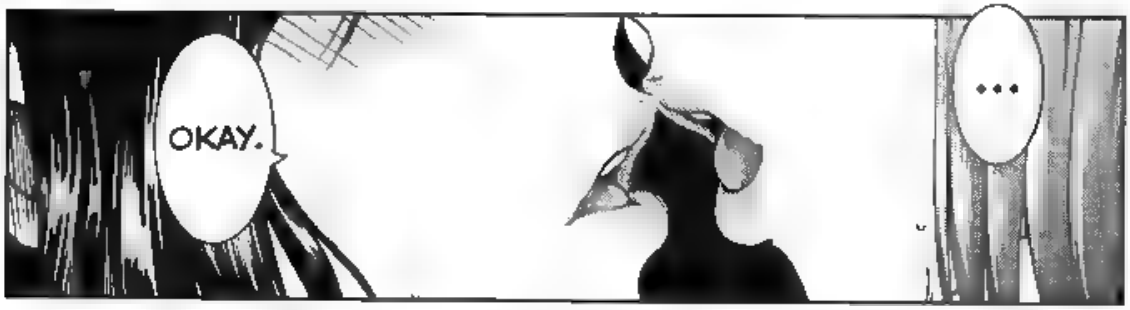
I SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT LAST NIGHT'S ...
WILD BEASTS? WE WOULD HAVE SEEN THEM WELL, WHATEVER
I WAS FEELING KINDA WEIRD, AND I WAS JUST WONDERING WHAT IT WAS.
UHHH... WELL, YOU KNOW HOW WE SAW A QUEERAT CORPSE YESTERDAY?
WHAT?
HMM ...

!!
HM!
MA- MARIA ?!

SAKI, YOU SEEM KIND OF... LOVESICK TODAY... DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
HUH?!
NO, I...
NO WAY, AN AFFAIR ?!
COULD IT BE THAT LAST NIGHT ...
...
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN WITH SATORU ?
SATORU?! WHAT?! WHY HIM?!
WELL, ISN'T SATORU THE GUY YOU LIKE BEST?
NO WAY! I'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM...
IS THAT WHAT'S WRITTEN ON MY FACE?
YOU TOO! I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE MAKING MAMORU DRAW US! IS THAT AN AFFAIR, TOO?!
OH, THAT?

WELL, WHO CARES ABOUT THAT GUY?
DON'T TELL HIM, BUT...
IT WAS TO OCCUPY HIS TIME AFTER SCHOOL WHEN THE FOUR OF US WERE DOING SECRET CANTUS TRAINING.
HE WOULD'VE FOUND OUT AND TOLD ON US OTHER-WISE.
?!
HEY, SAKI...
DO YOU LOVE ME ...?
YEAH.
YEAH ...
DO YOU LIKE ME ...?
SAKI ...

KISS YOU?
CAN I...


OKAY.
...

COULD IT BE... AKKI?!
!!
!
IT'S NOT THE GUYS, IS IT... THEN...
WAIT, MARIA! SOMETHING IS THERE!
!
HUH?

AH! AND IT'S THE ONE WE SAVED!
OH, IT WAS JUST A QUEERAT ...
KIIKEKEKKA GAH— KKA. MUST RU KKA O GAAAAAHDS
?!
!?
AND IT LEFT... WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT? I DON'T GET IT.
...
DID I HEAR IT RIGHT? JUST NOW... IT...
HUH ?!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT...
YOU MISHEARD, DUH. BESIDES, RUN FROM WHAT?
KII— KII
!
"YOU MUST RUN, OH GODS" ...?

IT'D BE BETTER IF WE STAYED PUT... I HAVE A FEELING THAT SOMETHING DANGEROUS IS LURK.NG JJST AROUND THE CORNER.
KII CI KII
...LISTEN CLOSELY. THAT VOICE ISN'T NORMAL. IT SOUNDS... AGITATED...
CII
WAIT !!
?!
IF YOU JUST LISTEN ...
IT'S STILL CLOSE !!
KII CIKII
CI KI
CI KI
.....
BUT...
IT WILL BE DARK SOON. WE HAVE TO DO THIS NOW.
JUST TO BE SAFE, LET'S GO CHECK IF "SOMETHING" CAME UP.
HUH...? I CAN'T SEE ANY-THING...
HEY, IT FEELS LIKE THAT WASN'T THE ONLY ONE, NOW.
CYAA
CYAA
OVER THERE!!
I CAN'T SEE THROUGH THE GRASS. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HII A...

THE GRASS IS.
パラ パラ
!
スパッ
HUH ?!
JGH
THEY'RE FIGHTING ..? BUT HUH?!
WHAT?! HUH?!
ドカ
ドドド
WATCH OUT!!
!!
ドドドド
ドーン

.....
ドクン ドクン
EEP
EE-EE
FALSE QUE-ERATS ARE REAL ?!
FOREHEAD HAS NO TATTOO!!
KILLED ...?!
ガシッ
...!!
?!
EVERY-BODY, QUIET!
DON'T MAKE A SOUND... LET'S WAIT UNTIL HE DOESN'T NOTICE US LEAVING.
どちゃっ
GI
KYAA
?
ON THE GRO-UND? FOR WHAT ...

?!
...
HYOFFYOO-
OOOOOOOO-
OOOOOOOO-
OOOOOOOO
BIKYOOO-
OOOOOO
FYOO-
OOOO
OOO-
OOOO
BIGYO-
OOO-
OO
PIK-
YO-
OO.
OO
OOO-
OOO

WE ABSOL-
JTELY MUST
STAY AWAY
FROM THAT
THING!!
WHAT'S UP
WITH THIS...?
TAKING
PLEASURE
IN VIOLENCE
...?!
BIGYO
OOOO
I JUST CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
THIS KIND OF
CREATURE!

EE
...
EE...
EEEK...
AH
...
...
PLEASE
...
DON'T
NOTICE
...
AAA-
AAA-
AAH
...

HAH
HAH

I DON'T GET IT... JUST WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?!
HAH
HAH
HAH?
新世界より
shin sekai yori

HAH.
HAH?
HAH
THIS MONSTER IS...

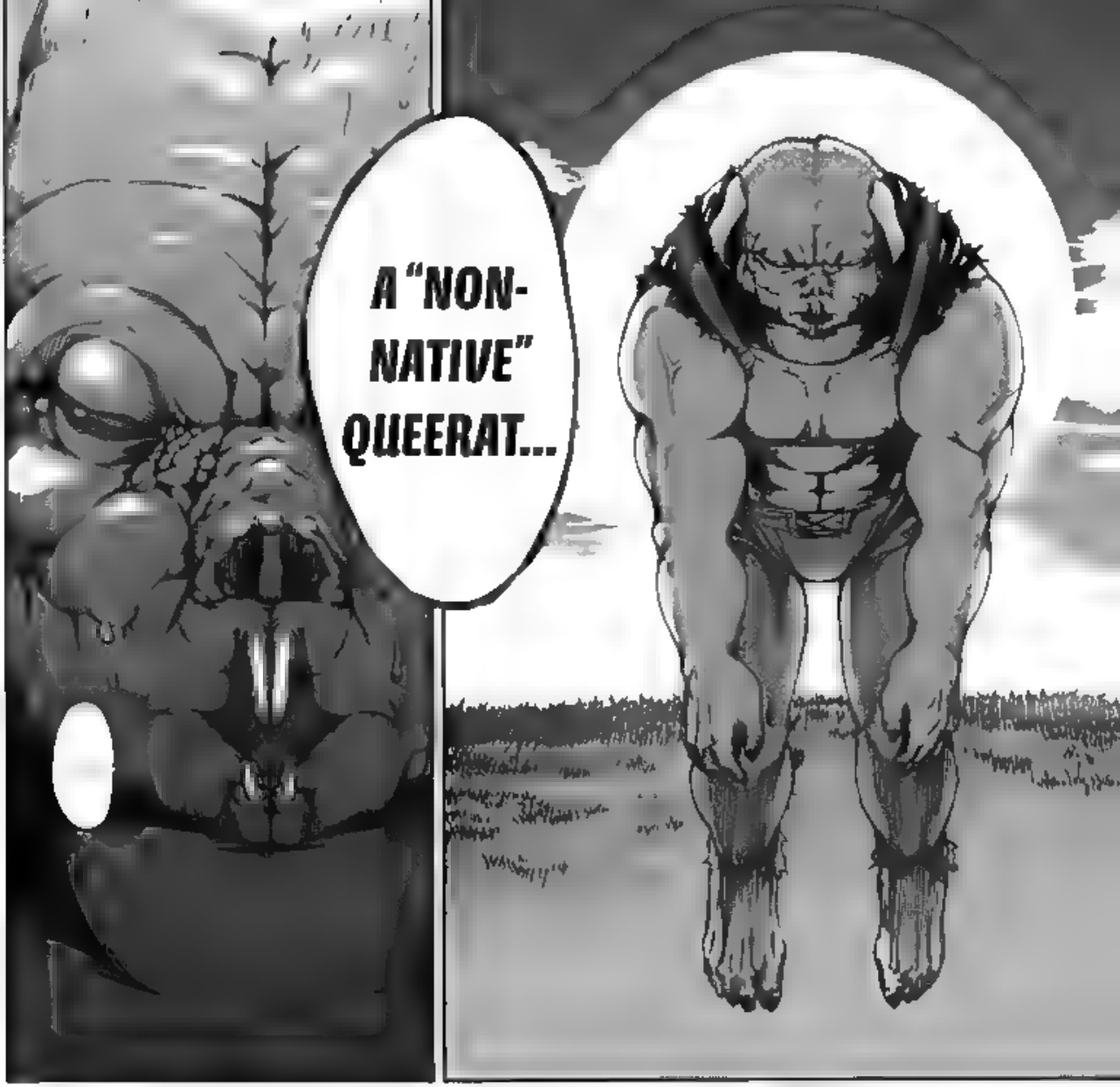
Chapter 3
Summer Darkness

PICYO-
HOOOOO-
OOOOOO
!!
IT'S COMING THIS WAY?!
MARIA !!
SAKI!! AAAHH!!
NO !!
0000-
0000-
00000
?

HAAH!
HAH!
HAH!
Ah
!?
CANTUS...!!

WE DIDN'T LEARN HOW TO USE CANTUS THIS WAY IN SCHOOL!
...
MAMORU!!
YE... YEAH...
HAHAHA! GOOD FOR YOU, MAMORU!!

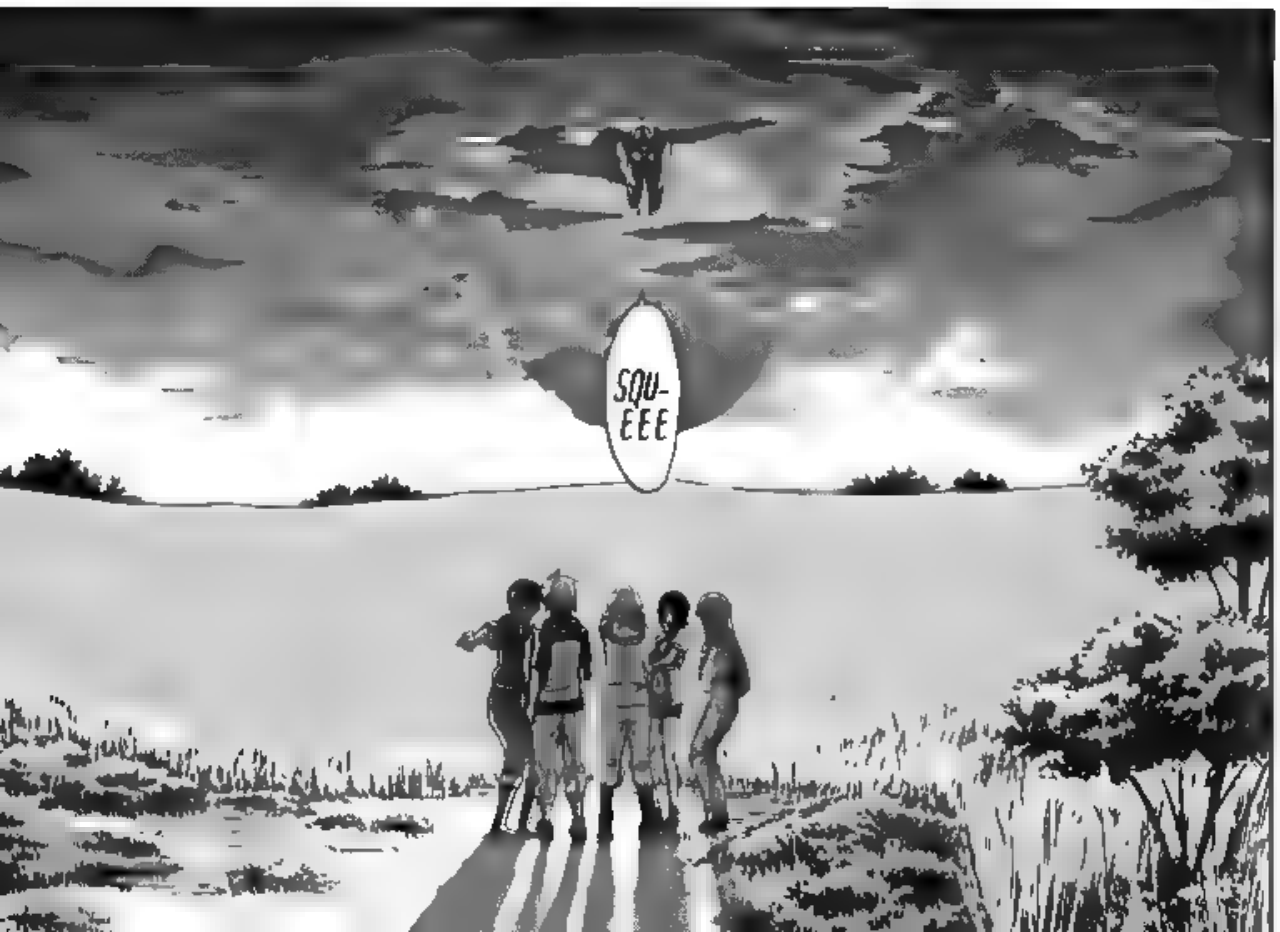
...WHY DID THAT THING CHARGE AT US?
HUH?
SHUN... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IT SHOULD KNOW THAT IT'S NO MATCH FOR A CANTUS USER.
IT'S HUGE AND HAS NO TATTOO, BUT IT'S STILL OBVIOUSLY A QUEERAT... WHY...
!
MAYBE...
IT COULD HAVE JUST BEEN UNAWARE OF CANTUS' EXISTENCE, RIGHT?
NO, SAKI IS PROBABLY RIGHT... THAT IS TO SAY,
!
NOT SUBMITTING TO HUMANS IS UNHEARD OF IN JAPAN... BASICALLY, THIS GUY CAME FROM A FOREIGN COLONY FROM OVERSEAS...
I... IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?
I DUNNO, MAYBE IT JUST NEVER MET A HUMAN BEFORE.
...
REALLY? BUT...


A "NON-NATIVE" QUEERAT...

WHOA, SHUN, THAT'S ...
MAMORU! RELEASE THAT THING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT HILL.
HEY, SAKI! YOU'RE SCARED, AREN'T YOU? YOU CAN JUST GO ON HOME IF YOU CAN'T USE YOUR CANTUS.

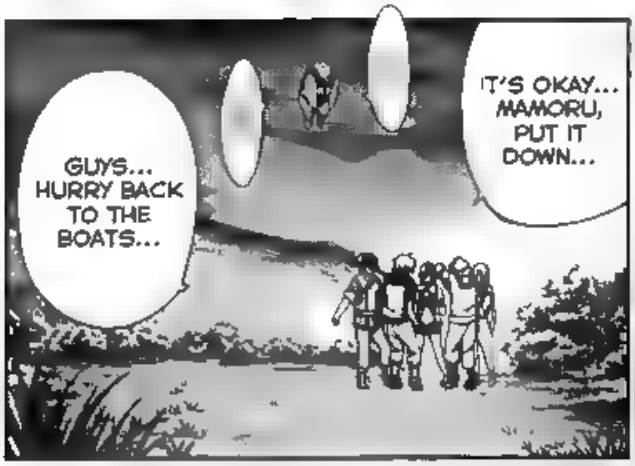
NON-NATIVE ...
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF SUCH A THING. IS THIS ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE TRUTHS THE ADULTS ARE HIDING ..?

WE GOTTA GET BACK TO THE BOATS AND LEAVE THIS RESTRICTED AREA, NOW!!
CANTUS IS POWERFUL, BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE US INVINCIBLE.
YEAH, GOT-


SQU-EEE

SQUEEE
CALLING FOR BACKUP ...?!
SQU-EEE
ドドド

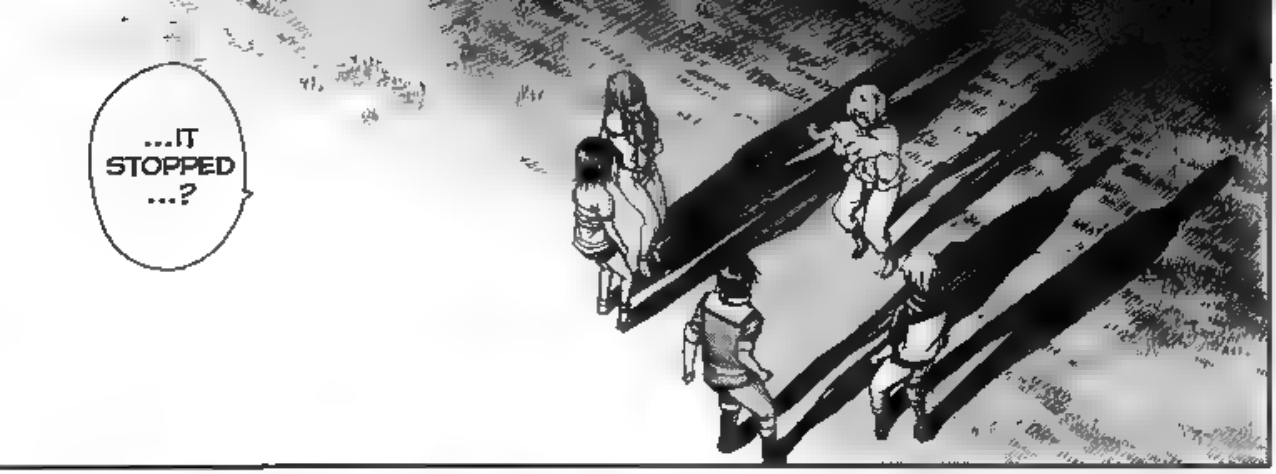
THIS THING'S... ALLIES...
IF A HORDE OF THIS THING'S ALLIES GATHERED UP AND ATTACKED ...
IF THIS GUY'S HERE, THE REST OF ITS COLONY'S GOTTA BE CLOSE.
SQU-EEE
SQU-
SQU-EEE

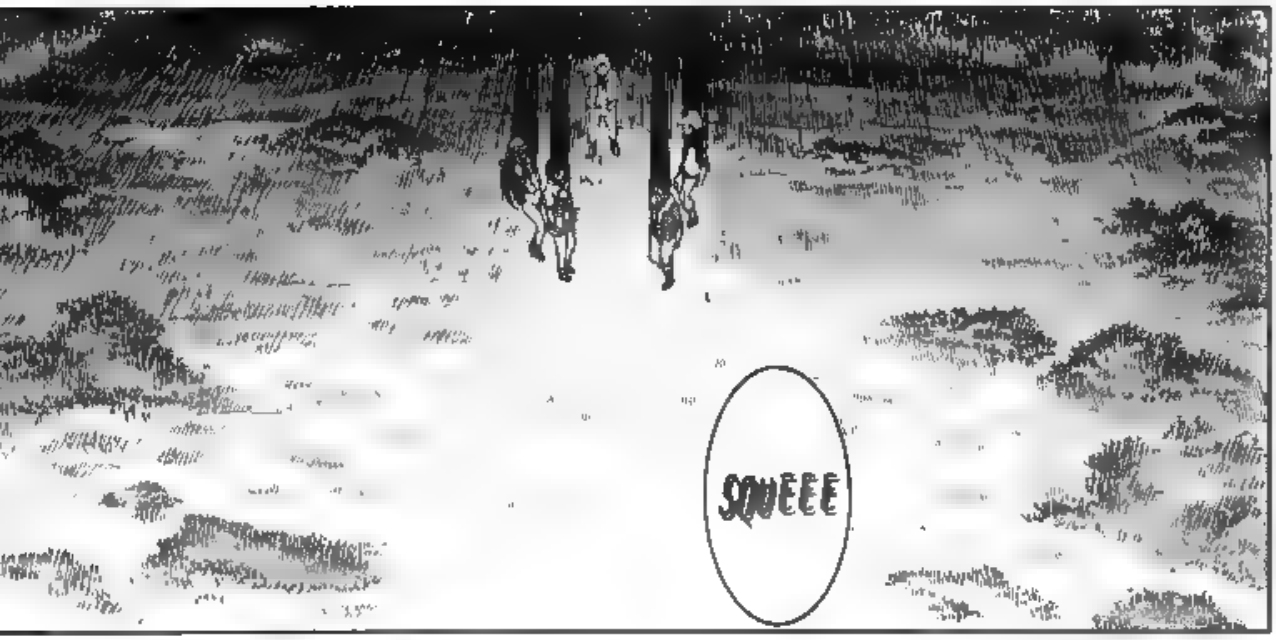

GUYS... HURRY BACK TO THE BOATS...
IT'S OKAY... MAMORU, PUT IT DOWN...

WE'RE STILL SAFE! CALM DOWN...
Y... YEAH!
MAMORU! HURRY UP AND LET IT GO!

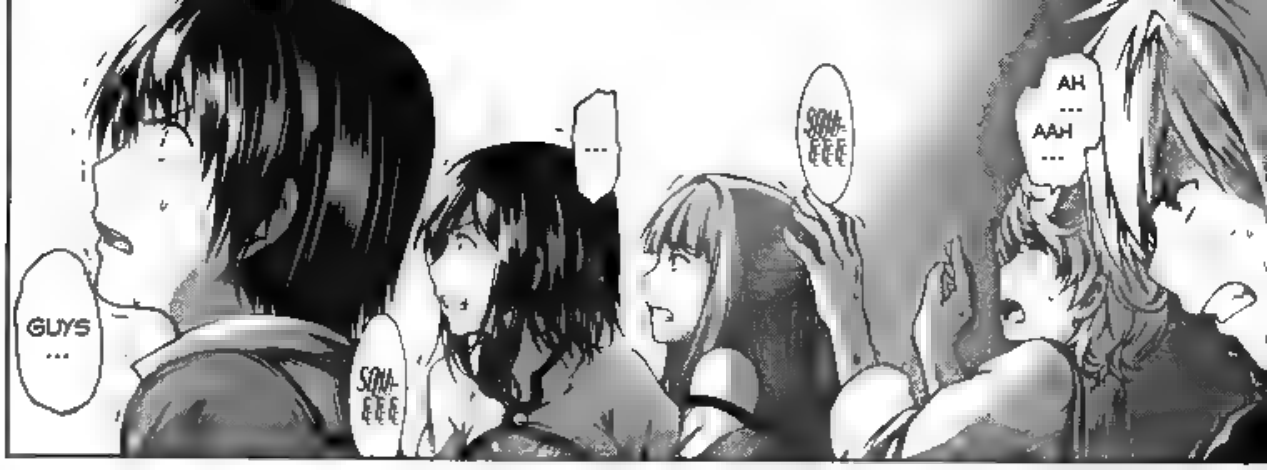
?!

?!
NO WAY!!
NO, THIS IS...
WHAT, EARTH-QUAKE?!
J... JUST HOW MANY
SQU-EEE
MAMORU, ENOUGH! WE'RE LEAVING!
SQU-EEE
SQU-EEE
SQU-EEE
THE FOOTSTEPS OF ITS ALLIES?!
STOP IIIT!!
SQU-EEE
DON'T CALL YOUR ALLIES! STOP IT!


...IT STOPPED ...?


SQUEEE

SOU-
EEE
SOU-
EEE
SOU-
EEE


GUYS ...
SQU-EEE
...
SQU-EEE
AH ... AAH ...

SQU-EEE
SQU-EEE
SQU-EEE
LET'S GET BACK... TAKE IT REAL SLOW...
SQU-EEE
Y... YEAH...

COOL IT, MAMO-RU!!
MAMO-RU?!
STOP CALLING YOUR ALLIES RIGHT NOW!!

SQU-EEE
SQU-EEE

STOO-OOP!!

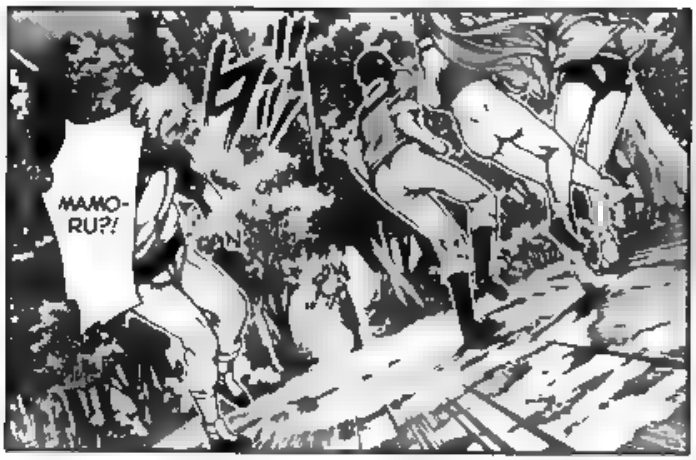
STOP!
SQU-EEE

SQU—
HUH ....?

...

AH... AH..
MAMO-RU... WHY DID YOU KILL

N... NO...
W... WHY...


MAMO-RU?!

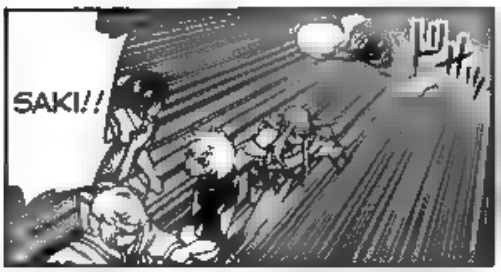
AAAA-AAAA-AAHH!!

NO, MAMORU!! STOP! DON'T GO INTO THE FOREST!!
!!

?!
YOU CAN'T USE YOUR CANTUS IN THE FOREST! YOU'LL GET KILLED!!
GUYS! CHASE HIM!! WE HAVE TO STOP MAMORU!!
Y-YEAH!
!!

PIGYO-HOOO-OOOO-OOO!!
UGH... GUYS, LISTEN UP.
YOU CAN ONLY AFFECT WHAT YOU CAN SEE WITH CANTUS!
A SURPRISE ATTACK WOULD BE POINTLESS! SO ONCE WE GET INTO THE FOREST, DON'T LET YOUR MIND SLIP, EVEN FOR A SECOND!!
!!

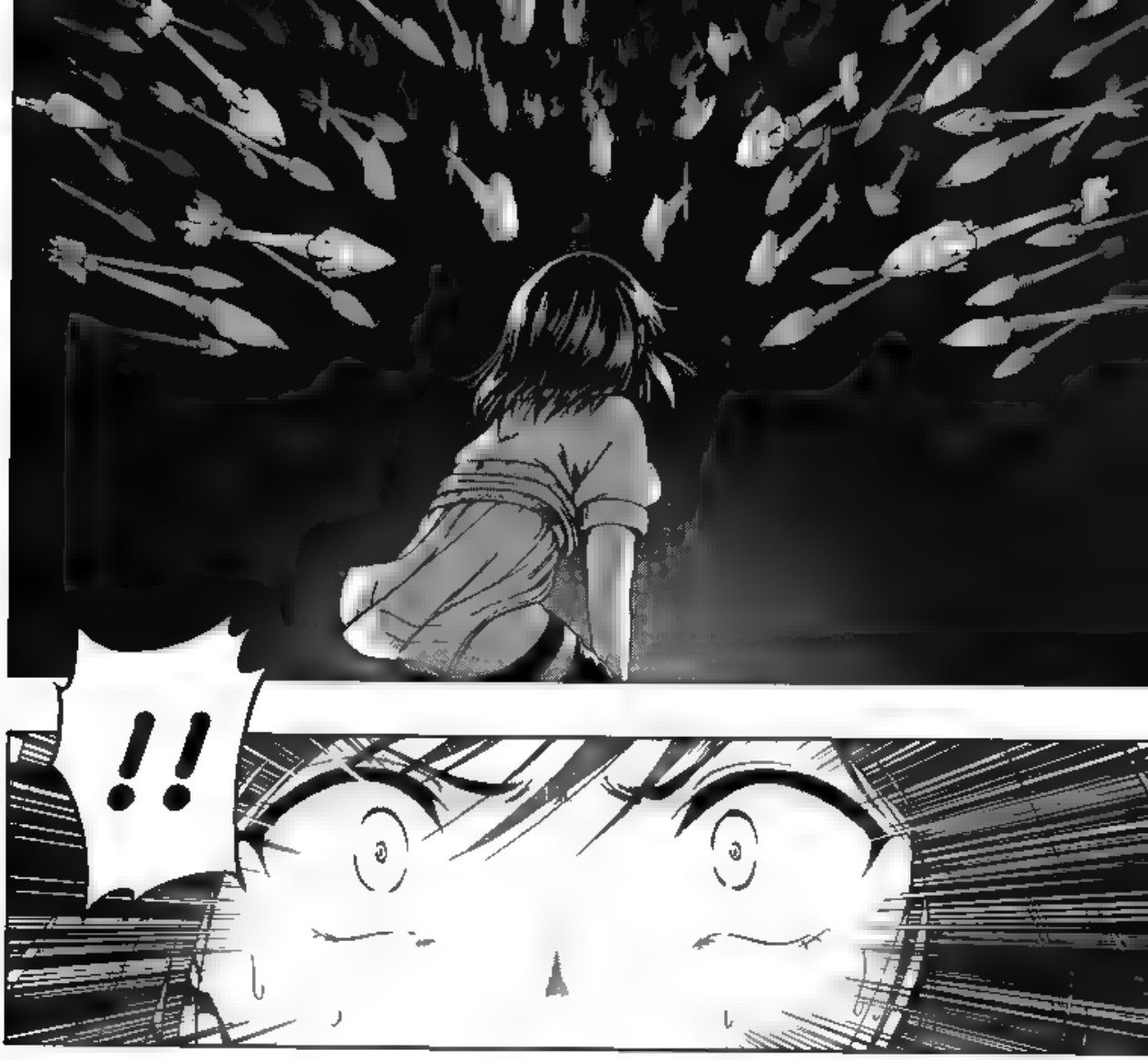
SO, DARK! SO MANY BLIND SPOTS!
THE FOREST IS WAY TOO DANGEROUS!!
WHAT IS THIS?!
THEY'LL KILL US IF WE GO INTO THE FOREST!!
MAMORU STOP!!


SAKI!!

YAH!

ANOTHER ONE?!
...
AN ARROW?! FROM WHERE?!

SAKI!!



SHUN ...!!
!
!!
SPLIT UP HERE!!
?!

THE FOREST JUST SANK...!
THAT... THAT MADE THEM STOP CHASING!
I... INCRE-DIBLE ...
WHERE DID YOU LEARN HOW TO USE CANTUS LIKE THAT THE FOREST JUST.
SHUN ...

WAIT! DON'T YOU THINK THEY'LL STOP CHASING ONCE THEY HAVE SEEN CANTUS?
YEAH! YOU'RE TOO RUSHED ...
WHAT?! SHUN?!
RUN, GUYS!! CUT THROUGH THE FOREST AS IT IS!!
!!
AAA-AAH!!
HURRY! THEY'LL START CHASING SOON!!
WHY DID YOU...?!

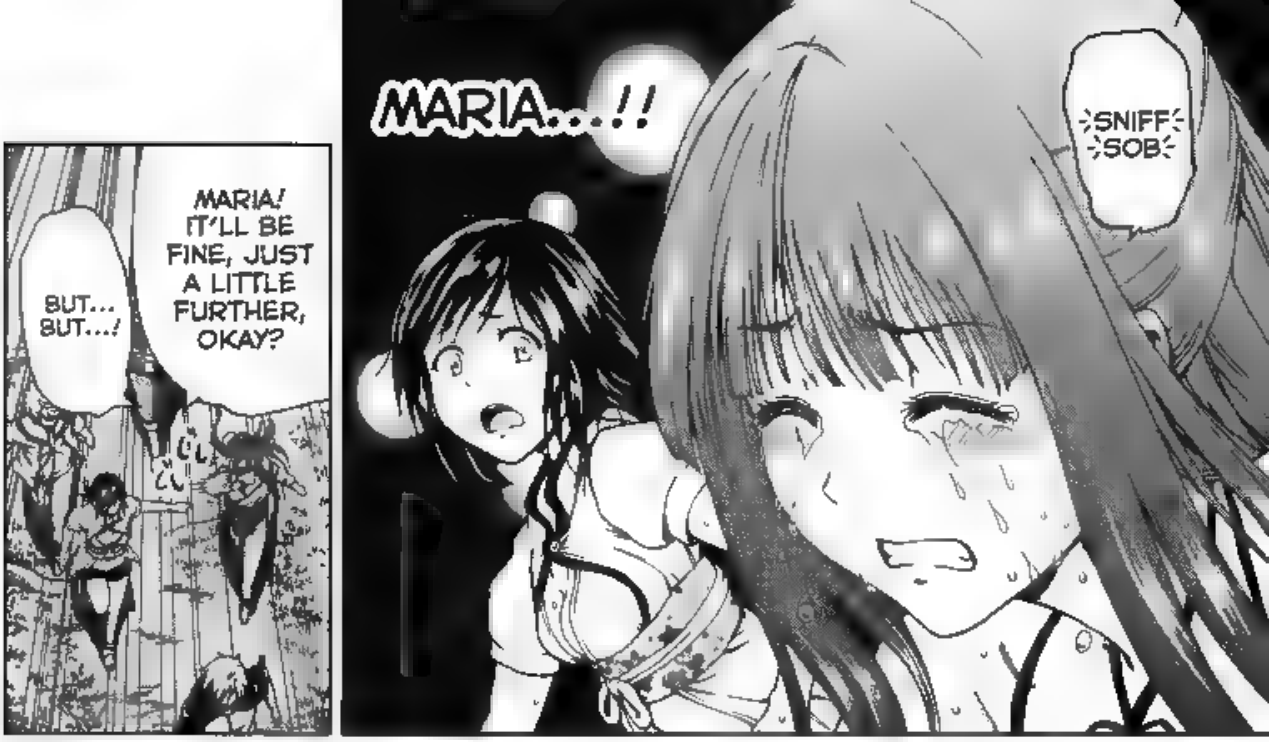
HAH!
HAH!
HAH

HAH
HAH
JUST RUN!!
BUT ...
DON'T ASK ME ABOUT THIS FOREST !!
HEY! HOW BIG CAN THIS FOREST BE?!
HAH

..
HAH!
HAH!
THEY'VE GOTTEN PRETTY CLOSE...

!!
PIG-YAA!!

!
THIS IS BAD...! THEY'LL CATCH UP TO US IF THIS KEEPS GOING...!!


MARIA...!!
SNIFF SOB
MARIA! IT'LL BE FINE, JUST A LITTLE FURTHER, OKAY?
BUT... BUT...!

WHY ARE THEY CHASING US?! EVEN THOUGH... WE'RE HUMANS ...!!
I JUST DON'T GET WHY THEY WON'T STOP EVEN AFTER SEEING CANTUS.
WE'RE DOOMED. WE CAN'T ESCAPE FROM THOSE THINGS...!!

THOSE THINGS WILL KILL US IN THIS FOREST!!
...!!

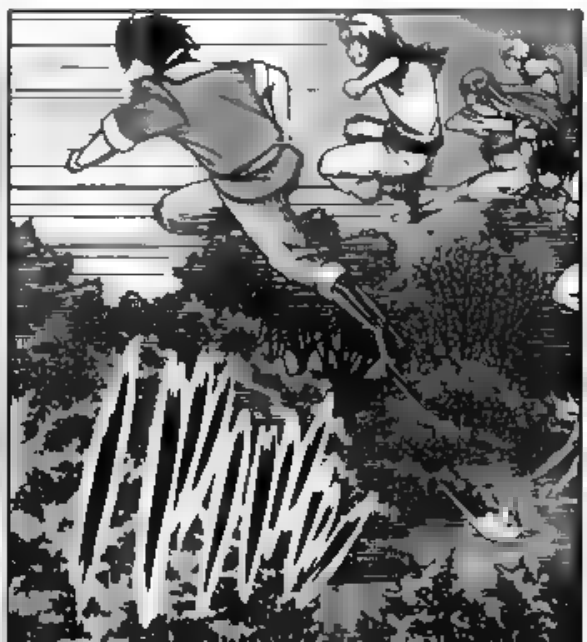
WE'RE GONNA DIE IN THIS PLACE!!
KYOO-OOO!!
PIGY-OOO!!
I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN!

SAFE AND SOUND, TO THE BOATS!!
WITHOUT FAIL!! EVERY-ONE IS GETTING BACK,

LOOK!!
YEAH!!

!!
IT'S THE EDGE OF THE FOREST!! WE CAN GET OUT!!

ONE LAST PUSH, GUYS!
WE'LL GET OUT OF THIS FOREST ...!!
W-WE MADE IT!!



GYO-OO!!
DON'T DROP YOUR GUARD NOW!!

!!
ARCH-
ERS?!
IT WAS
A TRAP
?!
GET
BACK
TO
THE
FO-
...

!!
WE'RE TOTALLY SURRO-UNDED!!
THIS IS IT FOR US...

GIGY-
AAAA
INFIGH-
TING?!
!!!!
SO
YOU ARE
SAFE,
YOUNG
GODS...
WHAT?!
WHAT
JUST
HAPP-
ENED?!
THEY'RE
RETRE
ATING?!
PIGYAA-
AAAAA!!

WH-WHO IS IT?!
THAT'S ...
...IT'S JUST A RUMOR, BUT I'VE HEARD THAT THERE'S AT LEAST ONE QUEERAT WHO CAN TALK TO PEOPLE...
QUEER-RATS?!
PRETTY SURE ITS POSITION WAS...
I REPRESENT THE ROBBER FLY COLONY.
PLEASE CALL ME SQUEALER.
?!
SO WE WERE SAVED BY HUMAN-FRIENDLY NATIVE QUEERATS?!
BUT HOW DID THEY GET...

THAT QUEERAT WAS...?!
!
YOU SAVED ONE OF OUR BRETHEREN IN AN EMERGENCY...
WHEN I WAS INFORMED THAT THERE WOULD BE TROUBLE BETWEEN YOU AND THEM, I QUICKLY GATHERED MY FORCES TO HELP.

ANYWAYS, THIS PLACE IS DANGEROUS! PLEASE COME TO THE SAFETY OF OUR COLONY!

I AM GLAD THAT YOU ARE SAFE. THEY EMPLOY BRUTAL AND COWARDLY TACTICS...
ESPECIALLY THE POISON ARROWS. EVEN A GRAZE WOULD LEAVE YOU IN MORTAL DANGER.

HEY, SAKI... IS IT OKAY TO BE FOLLOWING ALONG?
...
THEY SAY THEY'RE LOYAL TO HUMANS. CAN WE TRUST THEM?

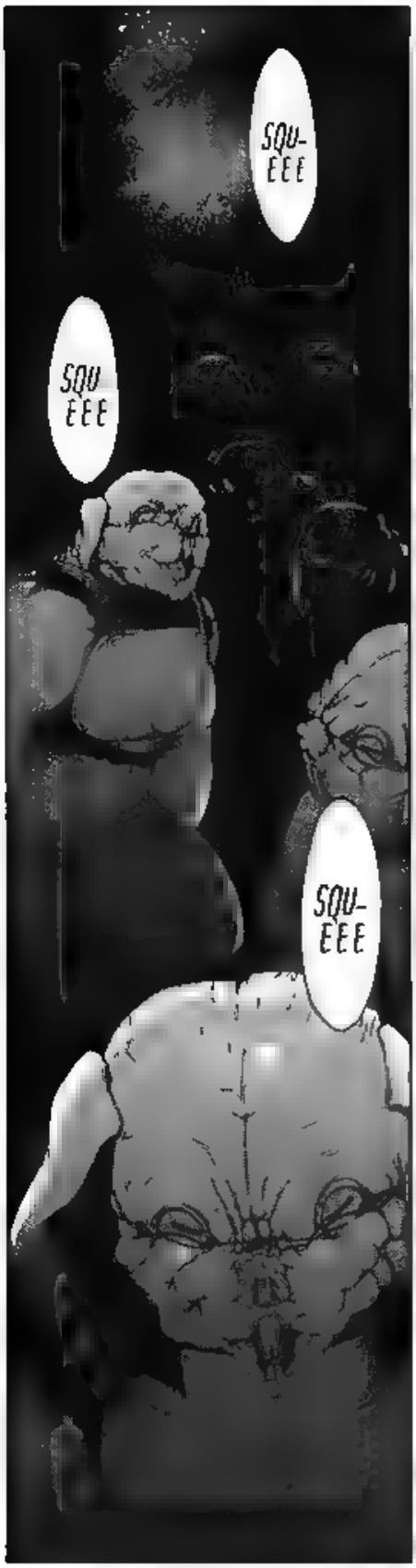
IT IS A DANGEROUS FOREIGN COLONY OF QUEERATS CALLED THE "GROUND SPIDERS".
JUST WHAT ARE THEY...?
WE ARE CURRENTLY IN A STATE OF WAR.
POISON?! SO IF I DIDN'T DEFLECT IT THEN...
...

THE ROBBER FLIES ARE A WEAK COLONY OF ABOUT 700. THE GROUND SPIDERS, IN COMPARISON, ARE A LARGE COLONY NO LESS THAN 4000 STRONG...
IT WILL NOT BE AN EASY MATTER...
WAR?! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WIN?!

...

にこっ
TODAY'S EVENTS WILL NOT REPEAT THEMSELVES, GODS. REST ASSURED.

!
YOU CAN SEE OUR COLONY FROM HERE.


SQU-EEE
SQU EEE
SQU-EEE

SUCH THAT WE COULDN'T DECIDE IF THESE QUEERATS WERE TRUST-WORTHY.
WE WERE CAST INTO A WORLD THAT DEFIED OUR COMMON SENSE, WROUGHT WITH FATIGUE
THIS IS A... COLONY?

PLEASE, COME, AND HAVE FAITH. AT LEAST FOR TONIGHT, THE GROUND SPIDERS CANNOT REACH US IN OUR COLONY...

SQUEALER WAS RIGHT. AFTER THAT, WE WILL ACTUALLY...

WE HAD NO SENSE OF MORTAL DANGER...
FOR THE TIME BEING...

新世界より

shin sekai yori

新世界より
WELCOME TO THE ROBBER FLY COLONY.
WHAT YOU SEE THERE WILL SPEAK FOR ITSELF.
YOUNG GODS, IT IS BETTER TO SEE FOR YOURSELVES.
HEY... HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE THAT YOUR COLONY IS SAFE?
...
CAN WE REALLY...
GET BACK HOME WITHOUT LOSING ANYONE?

Chapter 4
Eyes in the Darkness

THIS IS... A QUEERAT COLONY...

RIGHT, MARIA?
MAMORU ...EITHER WAY, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TRUST THEM.

H-HEY... IS IT REALLY SAFE FOR US TO BE IN HERE?
AREN'T WE UNDER THE GROUND? WHAT IF THE CEILING COLLAPSES ON US...

HMM ...?
HUH ?!
OH... YEAH.
... MARIA?

AS YOU MAY KNOW, WE QUEERATS LIVE UNDER A QUEEN AND BURROW TUNNELS WE LIVE IN.
IS SHE JUST TIRED, TOO?
MARIA USUALLY BLURTS OUT "COWARD!" IN THIS SITUATION...
LIVING QUARTERS ARE IN THE DEEPER LEVELS,
THESE TUNNELS EXTEND OVER A WIDE AREA THROUGH THE SURROUNDING FOREST.
AND TUNNELS USED FOR COMBAT STRETCH AROUND THE SHALLOWER LEVELS.
WE CAN DETECT CONDITIONS ABOVE GROUND USING *SOUND* AND *VIBRATIONS*, SO WE CAN FREELY LAUNCH ATTACKS FROM UNDERGROUND.

THEREFORE, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO INVADE THE COLONY FROM ABOVE THE GROUND...
YES.
SO BASICALLY, IT'S A VERY ROBUST DEFENSE MECHANISM?

PLEASE SPEND YOUR TIME HERE AT EASE!
THIS IS WHY WE CAN WELCOME YOU HERE WITH SUCH CONFIDENCE, GODS.

YEAH! SOUNDS COOL!
BY THE WAY... WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET OUR QUEEN?
I FEEL WAY BETTER NOW KNOWING THAT WE'RE SAFE HERE!

I SEE ...!
COME MORNING, WE WILL ESCORT YOU BACK TO YOUR BOATS.

MEETING QUEERATS AT THE MOUNT TSUKUBA FOOTHILLS AND GETTING CHASED! AND NOW WE GET TO MEET A QUEEN?!
I KNOW!
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THIS REALLY TURNED INTO A SWEET SUMMER CAMP!
WE CAN'T TELL ANYBODY ABOUT IT,
BUT THESE ARE OUR WONDERFUL SECRET MEMORIES!
WONDER-FUL MEMO-RIES?

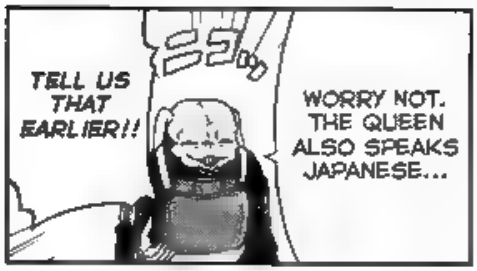
UHH... HEY, MARIA!
WHAT DID YOU LIKE THE BEST?

WE HAVE ARRIVED. THE QUEEN IS WAITING INSIDE.
MARIA...?
...

ピッ
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY. THE QUEEN IS NOT FOND OF LIGHTS, SO WE HAVE TO...
IT'S SO DARK... WHERE ARE THE LIGHTS?

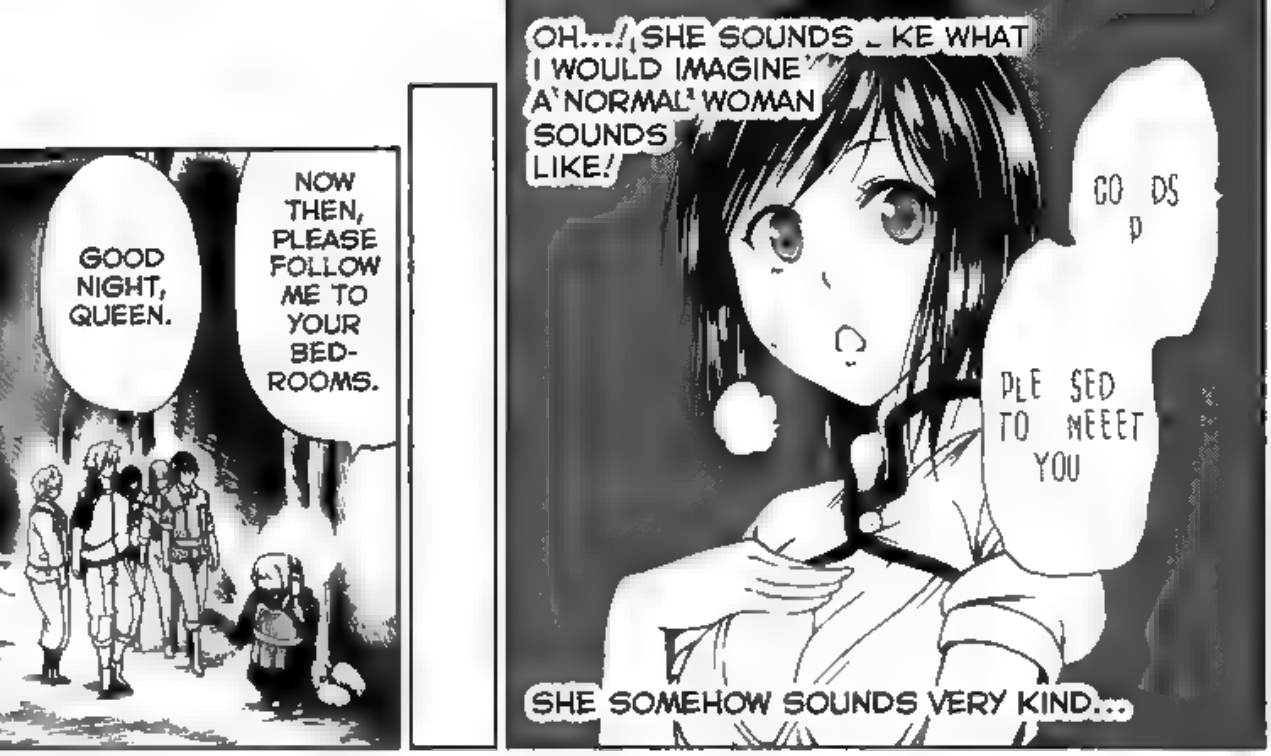
IT FEELS LIKE THERE'S A MASSIVE CREATURE IN HERE...
THIS IS THE... QUEEN?
?

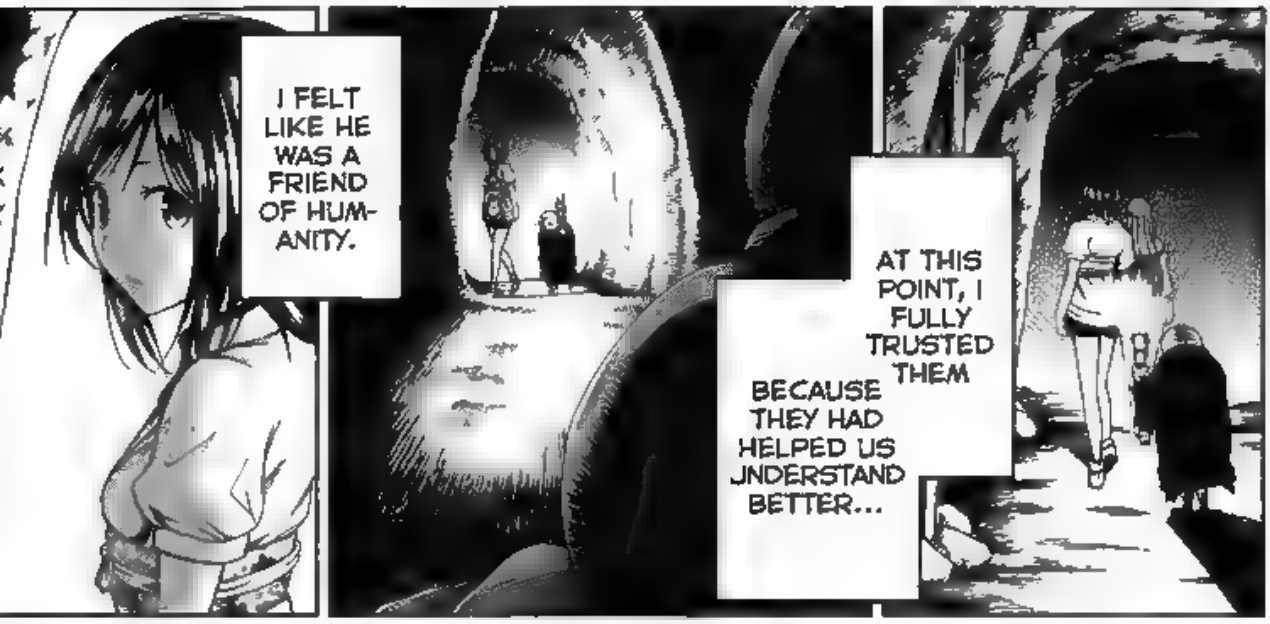
?!


TELL US THAT EARLIER!!
WORRY NOT. THE QUEEN ALSO SPEAKS JAPANESE...

!
OH KH O
GO D

AAAAH!! WHA . WHAT WAS THAT?!
IS IT MAD AT US?!
THAT JUST NOW WAS QUEERAT FOR "IT IS A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU."
WHA- AAT?!
JUST SPARE MY LIFE!!


OH.../ SHE SOUNDS L KE WHAT I WOULD IMAGINE A NORMAL WOMAN SOUNDS LIKE!
GO DS D
PLE SED TO MEEET YOU
SHE SOMEHOW SOUNDS VERY KIND...
NOW THEN, PLEASE FOLLOW ME TO YOUR BED-ROOMS.
GOOD NIGHT, QUEEN.


I FELT LIKE HE WAS A FRIEND OF HUM-ANITY.
AT THIS POINT, I FULLY TRUSTED THEM
BECAUSE THEY HAD HELPED US JNDERSTAND BETTER...

GROT-ESQUE CREA-TURE

...

I MIGHT BE A LITTLE NARROW-MINDED. EVEN SO...

THE SMALL IMPRESSION I HAD WAS COMPLETELY DROWNED OUT...

WELL THEN, SEE YOU IN THE MORNING.
THE BED IS JUST A CLOTH SACK FILLED WITH STRAW. IT FEELS STIFF.
WHOOAA, THE CEILING IS GLOWING!
IT'S PRETTY LIKE A FIREFLY!
ドサン
...
I FEEL KIND OF SICK...
IF I DON'T SNAP OUT OF IT NOW, I FEEL LIKE I'M GONNA REGRET SOMETHING... IS THIS PLACE REALLY SAFE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
SAKI ...
HMM?

A LOT OF STRESSFUL THINGS HAPPENED TODAY, SO...
MA-MARIA?! WHAT ARE YOU...?!
I'LL COMFORT YOU ♡
WHA—
HEH ♡
...
SO SAVE THIS FOR LATER! OKAY?
WA-WAIT, MARIA! NOT NOW!!
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU SHOULD THINK..
...
BEF-ORE YOU ACT!

?!
ぐちゅぱ

HAAH
FWAH
HAH
IT FEELS GOOD...

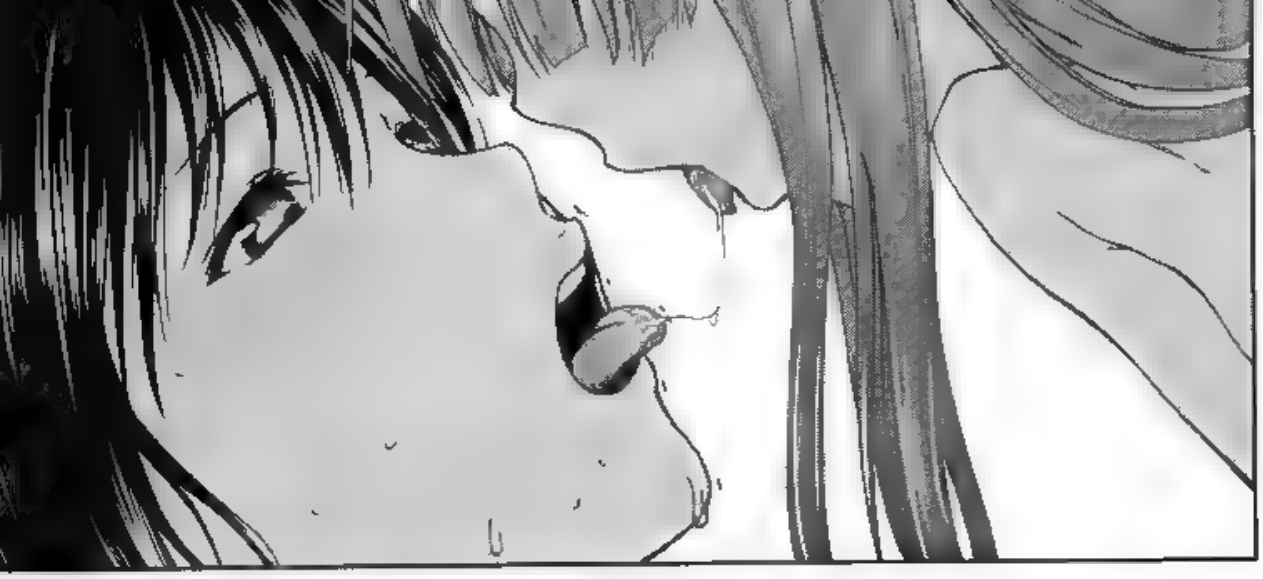
HMM
NN
MM
MM
...

CAN'T THIS WAIT A LITTLE? YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THIS... SERIOUSLY ...
SERI-OUSLY? HEHEH ...
HAH
MM

WAIT, MARIA... WHY ARE YOU BEING SO FORWARD...
HAH
HAH
AH
AH
HAH
THAT WAS A BAD KISS. I GOT PULLED ALONG... EVEN THOUGH... IT'S WRONG...

NNNG !!

WOW, SAKI...♡
WAI... NO! NOT THERE ...
THAT'S NOT RIGHT, IS IT? YOU'RE NOT A SERIOUS GIRL...
WHY DON'T YOU STICK YOUR TONGUE OUT? I'LL GIVE YOU MOOORE GOODNESS ♡
SO NAUGHTY, SAKI ♡
AH
AH
NO-
HA.
ST-
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SUCH A NAUGHTY GIRL...
GETTING DRAGGED ALONG LIKE THIS... I CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT ANY MORE...
...



THIS IS WEIRD...
MARIA HAS NEVER BEEN LIKE THIS BEFORE.
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, MARIA...?!

GEEZ, MARIA ...
SAKI... DO YOU LIKE ME?
DO YOU?
COME ON, DO YOU?
YEAH! YEAH...

MMM...

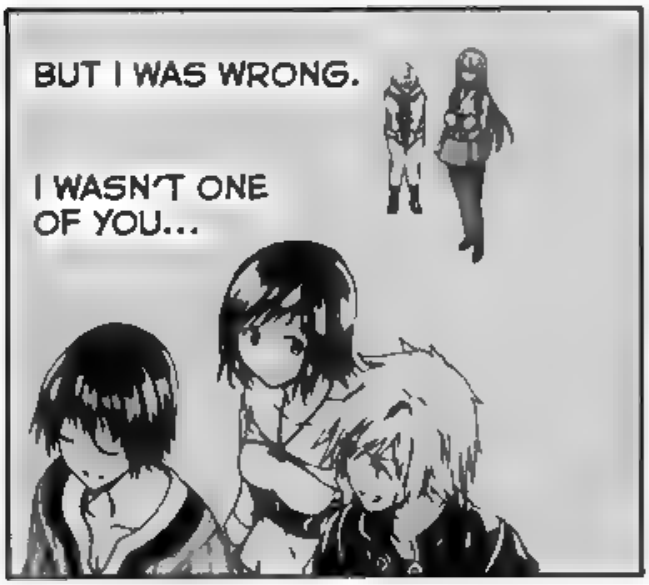
HEY, SAKI?
WHA-AAAT?

I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T WANT THIS! STUPID MARIAAA!
COME OOON!

DO YOU STILL LIKE ME?

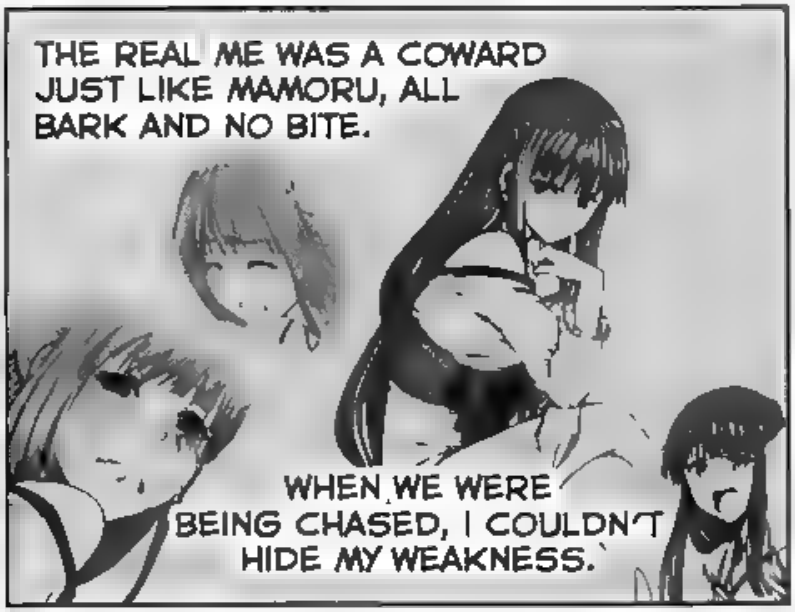
I WAS SURE YOU'D COME TO HATE ME AFTER TODAY...
WH... WHAT'S WRONG, MARIA?

MY CHILDHOOD FRIENDS—YOU, SHUN, SATORU—ARE ALL SO BRAVE, NICE, AND REALLY AWESOME...
I THOUGHT I WAS PROUD TO BE A FRIEND LIKE THAT, TOO.


BUT I WAS WRONG.
I WASN'T ONE OF YOU...

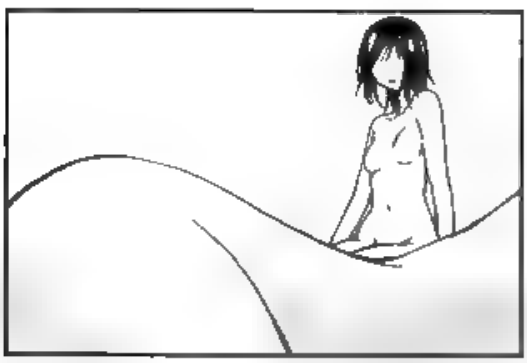
THAT'S WHY I QUICKLY CAME TO DISLIKE MAMORU WHEN WE MET.
HE'S COWARDLY AND EASILY SCARED... I HATED IT.

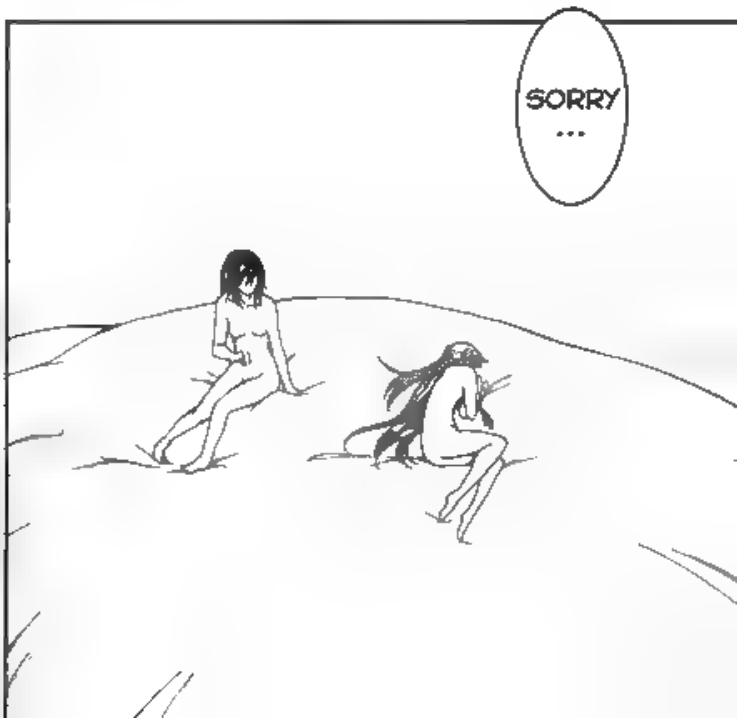
I'M THE WORST... MAMORU WASN'T SO BAD, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO BE LUMPED WITH THE LIKES OF HIM.
I SAID SO MANY HORRIBLE THINGS...


THE REAL ME WAS A COWARD JUST LIKE MAMORU, ALL BARK AND NO BITE.
WHEN WE WERE BEING CHASED, I COULDN'T HIDE MY WEAKNESS.

OF COURSE YOU'D HATE ME.

SORRY, I WAS TOO PUSHY. ...I WON'T DO IT ANY MORE.
MARIA ...?




SORRY ...

I LOVE YOUR LONG PRETTY RED HAIR.

I LIKE THAT YOU'RE BEING MORE ASSER-TIVE.

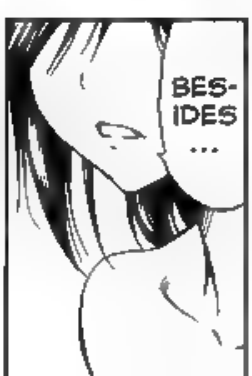
I LIKE THAT YOU'RE NICE TO EVERY-BODY.

WE'LL STILL BE TOGETHER FOREVER, RIGHT?

IF YOU'RE WEAK THEN I'LL BE STRONG FOR YOU.

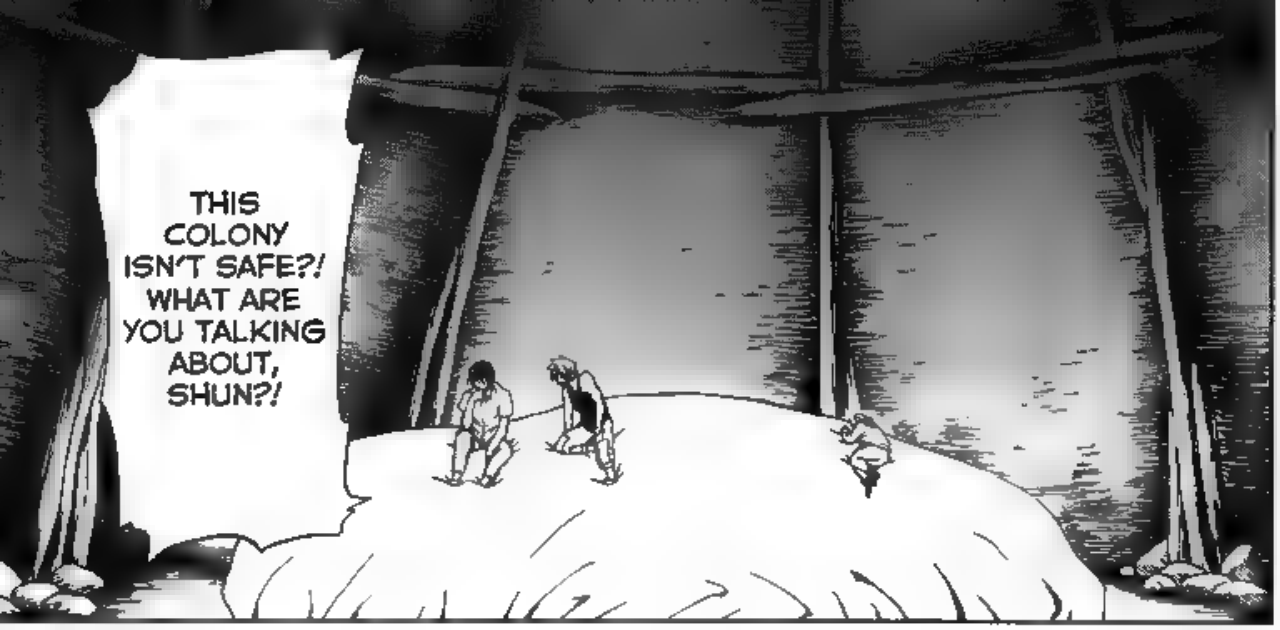
SINCE I'LL LOVE YOU FOREVER.

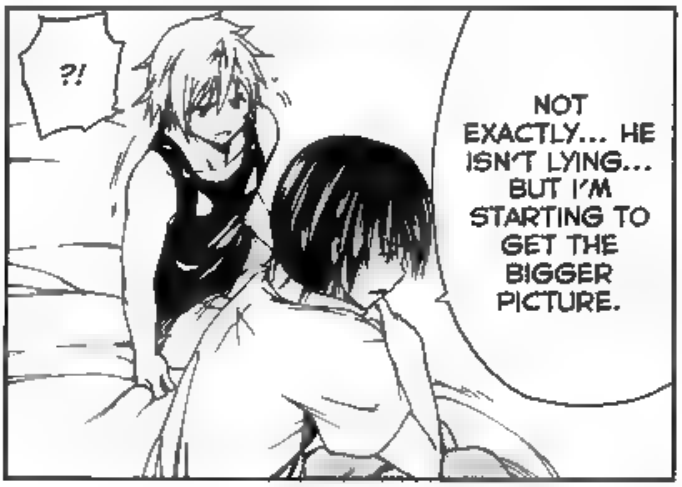
?!


BES-IDES ...

I LOVE YOU!

I WON'T LET YOU SLEEP TONIGHT!!
WHICH ONE IS THE NAUGHTY GIRL HERE, HUH?!
HEHE!
PLEASE BE GENTLE WITH ME ♡


THIS COLONY ISN'T SAFE?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, SHUN?!


?!
NOT EXACTLY... HE ISN'T LYING... BUT I'M STARTING TO GET THE BIGGER PICTURE.

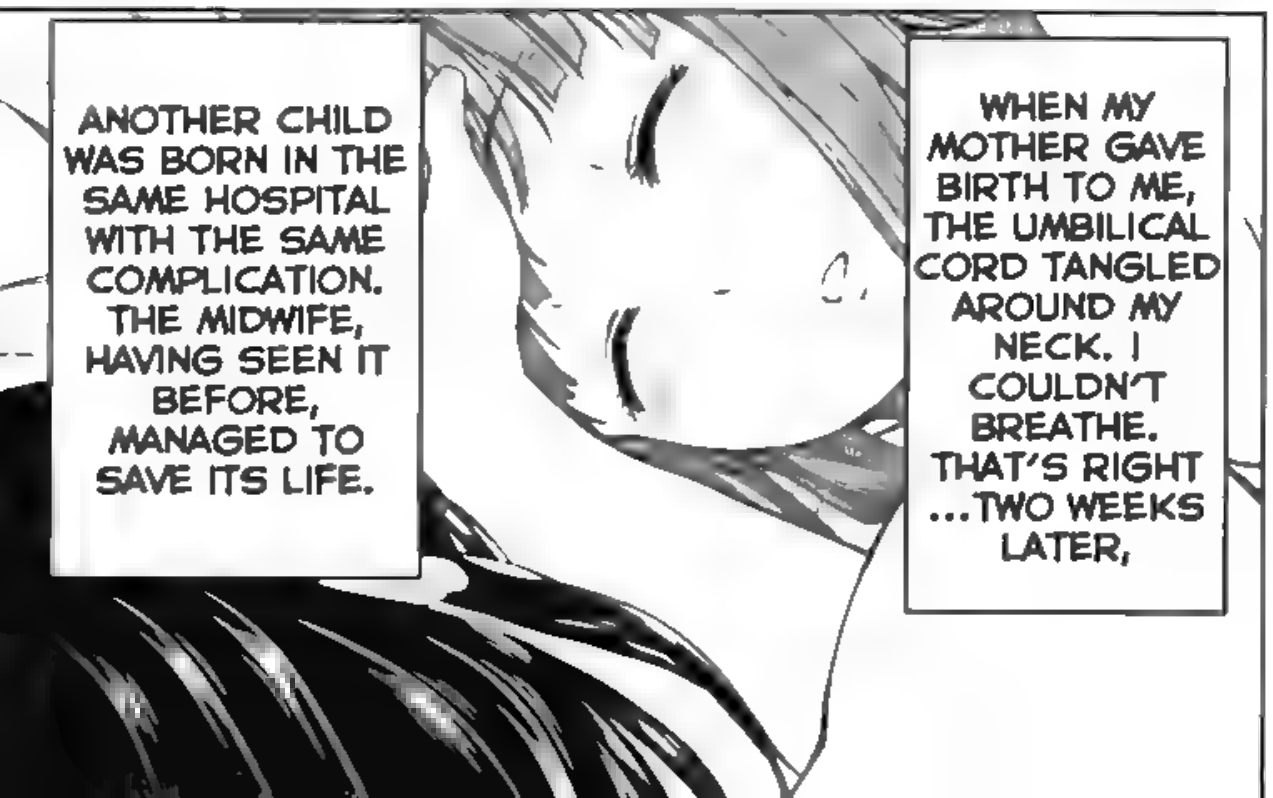
I FINALLY GET WHY I WAS FEELING UNEASY...
YOU'RE SAYING THAT SQUEALER TRICKED US?!

SO, WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS...
YOU SAW THEIR BODIES, RIGHT? THEY'RE ABOUT TWICE AS BIG AS THE NATIVE SPECIES... THEY DON'T HAVE NARROW TUNNELS UNDERGROUND, SO THEY COULD ONLY BE GOOD FOR GROUND BATTLE!

OUR COMMON SENSE WON'T APPLY TO THIS FOREIGN SPECIES!!

...
OF COURSE, I MIGHT JUST BE OVER-THINKING IT...
THERE ARE WAYS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE TUNNELS?!
BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT SQUEALER OVERLOOKED THIS POSSIBILITY!
NO...
SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?! GET OUT WHILE WE CAN?!

..
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO WALK IN AN UNFAMILIAR FOREST AT NIGHT. LET'S WAIT UNTIL DAWN. JUST PRAY THAT NOTHING HAPPENS...


ANOTHER CHILD WAS BORN IN THE SAME HOSPITAL WITH THE SAME COMPLICATION. THE MIDWIFE, HAVING SEEN IT BEFORE, MANAGED TO SAVE ITS LIFE.
WHEN MY MOTHER GAVE BIRTH TO ME, THE UMBILICAL CORD TANGLED AROUND MY NECK. I COULDN'T BREATHE. THAT'S RIGHT ...TWO WEEKS LATER,

...THAT CHILD LATER BECAME MY BEST FRIEND, AKIZUKI MARIA.
MM... SAKI...
SLEEP-TALKING
MM
HOW-EVER ...
IN THE CASE THAT MARIA ...

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 2

閉じ込められた早季達。

NEXT ISSUE

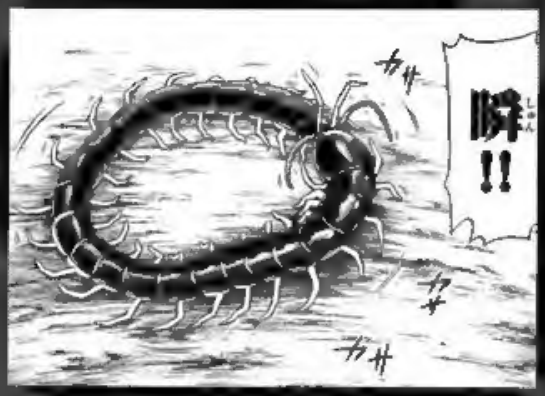
新世界より

shin-sekai-yori

第2巻

陰謀が渦巻く――…

バケネズミのコロニーに



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